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## THE RELATION OF COINS TO THE FINE ARTS.

"The knowledge of coins is absolutely necessary to those who desire to study history thoroughly ; for history is not to be learned in books alone, which do not say always everything, nor always the truth. We must, then, have recourse to documents which justify it, and which have not been affected either by malice or ignorance : and such documents are coins. We learn by them thousands of things equally important and interesting, which are not to be found anywhere else."—*Rollin*.

In estimating the value of Rollin's words just quoted, it is necessary to call to mind the fact that in ancient times coinage was quite a different act from what it is at present. Instead of striking a simple, unvaried piece of metal, differing only in the date, and otherwise presenting a dull monotony of design, the ancients employed their coins, as we do medals, to perpetuate the memory of important occurrences or historical facts. Thus the coins of the people filled the place of archives, becoming so many metallic and imperishable records of their deeds.

Thus, in Greece, not only the people and the kings were accustomed to coin money, but the towns had also their distinct coinage, upon which were displayed the effigies of their favorite divinities, information concerning their principal products and manufactures, and facts in their history, running back often into the period of fable : even the games and other customs of the people were faithfully recorded and delineated by this means. All these curious particulars are found illustrated on coins, and so finely executed as to make them as well real monuments of art.

So, also, the Roman coinage illustrates the history of Rome through a period covering many centuries. At first, the rude bronze pieces, struck by order of the kings of Rome, convey no record, save by the absence of all memorial whatsoever. Soon, however, we find these pieces impressed with images through which we may communicate with the dead past they chronicle ; and, finally, we reach the gold and silver coins struck by order of the Republic, in whose inscriptions and designs we may read the history of Rome down to the time of the Empire.

The imperial coins date from Pompey to the last of the Byzantine Emperors — a period of over fourteen centuries. Upon these we find an unbroken series of portraits, not only of the emperors, empresses, and Cæsars, but also those of those tyrants who played so important a role in the great

Roman drama; yet of whom some held sway but for a few days, and are known to history only through their coins.

And it is to be observed that the portraits of Roman coins are not—like those of our day—conventional figures (as the effigy of Queen Victoria on the British coinage of 1879 represents her as she appeared when she ascended the throne in 1837). Among the ancients, on the contrary, the portrait followed, with each recurring coinage, the actual changes of physiognomy in the personages portrayed, thus exhibiting correct representations of the same dignitaries at the different stages of their official lives.

And as the obverse of these coins displayed the rulers, so the reverse set forth the leading incidents of their reigns. Here we have the victories of the people over their enemies, monuments illustrating important events, progresses and processions, triumphs, donations to the people, public games, races, and combats in the arena. We have, too, representations of heathen divinities; and, finally, public works, built or restored under the reigns of the emperors designated, such as monuments, bridges, aqueducts, roads, and canals.

The progress of coins from the condition of dumb tokens of barter, to that of artistic symbolism and record in metal, is the most marvellous feature in the study of numismatics.

It is one of the wonders of man's ingenuity, that, with a few trays of coins before us, we are supplied with the genesis of art in all the phases of its rise and its decadence. This, however, would not be the case, were it not that the dies for ancient coins were designed by the best artists of the period—those having already a high reputation as engravers of cameos and intaglios.

We first meet with art in coins at their very invention, about 800 B. C., and witness the first steps of artists in this direction, in their efforts to copy figures of persons or of animals, as the initiative of design. On one side of such pieces we find the rude image, the reverse containing only a hollow square employed to hold the metal to the lower part of the die during the process of striking. Gradually, as the image on the obverse becomes disclosed and perfected—the sunken square of the reverse takes form in its turn, and presently small subjects are found engraved therein. Now the field of the reverse becomes flat, and about the year 400 B. C. noble bas-reliefs, representatives of Greek art of the time of Phidias, Scopas, and their contemporaries, begin to appear. The coins of that period are the finest monuments of numismatic art imaginable, and have never been equalled by those of any other people at any period of the world's history. It is the fashion to say of such pieces—"How well these are struck for such an early period." This betokens either ignorance or the absurdity of affectation. So far from deprecating criticism, the coins of those times have never since been approached as works of art; and in following the course of coinage, we witness its gradual decay as a fine art, until the universal conquests of the Romans, and their ascendancy as a purely military people had given art its death-blow. By restraining the freedom of design, this condition of their country imposed upon the Roman artists a certain mannerism and stiffness of execution fatal to excellence in art.

This result, it may be observed, invariably characterizes art under a purely military regime. Originality of conception is struck silent and pulse-

less through its chilling influence, and purposeless and unmeaning vagaries assume the place of the ancient vital and impressive designs.

During the long period of the reigns of the Roman emperors, we are enabled, thanks to their coins, to follow the progress of art with fidelity, almost day by day. Now a fatal decadence begins to display itself. It is true, that in certain reigns, as those of Nero, Hadrian, Commodus, and even Postumus, a certain appearance of renaissance is visible; but under the reign of the successors of these emperors, it becomes obvious that these were only faint and fitful glimmerings of the flambeau of art, which is, meanwhile, expiring. And so the standard and level of art continue to lower, until, when Christianity first appears on coins (about A. D. 312), it is almost at its ebb; for we find on the coins of the successors of Constantine only barbarous images, the artists of the period being unable either to create, or even to copy the simplest figure or legend accurately, not to say artistically. At last the Roman coins come down to us covered with meaningless lines, performing a duty which is purely perfunctory.

Now appears the dead blank of the "dark ages," under whose malign influence, art is stifled and voiceless, as is every other element of progress and civilization. And as the decay was gradual, so is the restoration. Slowly and with struggles light begins to dawn, barbarism gives place to intelligence, and our coin chart depicts the better efforts of the Gothic period, of which the reign of St. Louis of France, in the thirteenth century, offers, perhaps, the best examples. A constant improvement is discernible through the reigns of Louis XII. and Francis I., of Charles V. and Henry VIII., and we are in the midst of the Renaissance, when fine portraits take their place on coins, and maintain themselves there in almost their ancient beauty of execution, until the time of Louis XIII. and Cromwell, during which comparatively brief period coinage has regained in mechanical perfection of fabrication, what it has possibly lost in artistic excellence of design.

But since those days a new descent has occurred, and it is a fact, that, excepting in the barbaric times, there has never been a period when insignificance in design and feebleness of execution so characterized a majority of the pieces struck by the leading nationalities. Though affluent in images of kings, and symbols of all the virtues, there is neither portraiture nor wise suggestion to be found in them. It would certainly be to the advantage, not of ourselves alone, but of our posterity, if those who direct the designing of the coins of the present day, were to study the splendid examples to which we have referred. Meanwhile, it remains, and deserves repetition, that for a complete and imperishable history of human art, one has only to choose judiciously and study faithfully a few trays of those metallic archives which we call coins.

G. L. FEUARDENT.

#### A NIHILIST PIECE.

THE Russian Nihilists have issued a medal, or penny-piece, to be worn secretly on the breast, as religious medals are sometimes worn, having on the obverse the portrait of the Czar Alexander II., and the legend, "Death to Despotism," and on the reverse, Liberty distributing bread and salt, in the Russian manner.



## NUMISMATIC BOOKS PRINTED AT THE ALDINE PRESS.

THE Aldine Press was established in Venice about 1490, by Aldo Manuzio, or as he loved to style himself in his volumes, Aldus Pius Manutius Romanus et Philhellen. The first book published by Aldo bearing a date, was a Grammar by Lascaris, printed in 1494. It is thought by Renouard to be the first work that issued from his press. More than a thousand works were printed during the century that the press continued in operation, under Aldo and his descendants.

The well known Aldine device, the anchor and dolphin, first appeared in *Le Terze Rime di Dante*, printed in 1502. From this date it was placed, with few exceptions, upon the first or last page of each book. The design was taken from a denarius of the Emperor Vespasian. We are told by Erasmus in his *Adagiorum Collectanea*, that P. Bembo gave Aldo one of these coins some years before the device was used.



In the following list I have endeavored to give complete descriptions of the numismatic books printed at the Aldine press, the title in full, collation and mention of other editions. Renouard's *Annales de l'Imprimerie des Alde*, Paris, 1834, 8vo., has been the principal authority consulted for the Aldine editions; while Brunet's *Manuel du Libraire* and other bibliographical works have been referred to for the other editions.

BUDE (Guillaume). Born at Paris 1467, died 1540.

I. Gvillielmi Bvdæi Parisiensis Secretarij Regij, Libri V de Asse, & partib. eius post duas Parisienses impressiones ab eodem ipso Budæo castigati, idq; authore Io. Grolierio Lugdunensi Christianissimi Gallorū Regis Secretario, & Gallicarū copiarū Quæstore, cui etiam ob nostrā in eum observantiā a nobis illi dicantur. M.D.XXII.—*Venetis In ædibus Aldi et Andreae Soceri*. [Small 4to.; 12 leaves unnumbered, 260 pp., numbered to 262 by mistake—page 158 being marked 158, 159, 160. At the end two leaves not numbered.]

The first edition of this work was printed at Paris in 1514. There are many reprints: Paris, 1516, 4to.; 1532, folio; 1542, folio; Lyons, 1550, 8vo. It is also to be found in Budé's complete works; Basileæ, 1557, 4 vols., folio; and in A. Rechenberg's *Historiæ Rei Numariæ veteris*. Lips. & Lugd. Batav. 1692–5, Vol. I, p. 95. This work is so full of digressions, entirely foreign to the subject, that abridgments have been thought necessary. An abridged French translation was published under the following title: *Summaire et epitome du livre de Asse fait par le commandemēt du roy, par maistre Guillaume Budé*. [At the end] *Imprimé a Paris p. maistre Pierre Vidone, pour . . Galliot du Pré libraire juré. Ce xx iour de feburier Mil cinq cens vingt et deux*. Small 8vo., 4ll., 79 pp. Other editions appeared in 1529, 1538, 1558, &c. An Italian translation, by Giovanni Bern. Gualandi, was printed at Florence, 1562, 8vo. The Aldine edition is the only rare one, and the only one much sought after.

"As a first work upon a most intricate and difficult subject, it is a truly wonderful performance. He had no previous authors whose track to follow, or whose ideas he could just remodel, improve, or make additions to: his only guides were the monuments themselves, and with the few detached passages that lie scattered through the works of ancient writers, he worked out a science for himself."—*Humphrey's Ancient Coins*, page 6.

VICO (Enea). Born at Parma about 1520, died about 1570, probably at Ferrara.

II. *Omnium Cæsarum verissimæ Imagines ex antiquis numismatis desumptæ. Addita per brevi cæsarum vitæ descriptione ac diligenti eorum quæ reperiri potverunt numismatum, aversæ partis delineatione*.—Aeneas Vicus Parm. F. Anno M.D.LIII. [4to.; 61 leaves unnumbered, including plates and frontispiece.]



This book was written by Antonio Zantani, in Italian, and published at Rome, 1520, 4to. The Latin edition was reprinted by Manuzio in 1554, with Italic type, the edition of 1553 being in Roman type. Neither of these editions bear the name of Venice or Manuzio. Renoard, however, asserts that they were undoubtedly printed at Venice by P. Manuzio. Another edition, called *editio tertia* on the title page, appeared at Rome, 1614, 4to. In 1730, G. P. Bellori published an annotated edition at the same place.

"This is a remarkable book, both for the beauty of the engravings of the coins, and also the ornamental borderings of the pages, the whole forming an exquisite specimen of Venetian printing of the period."—*Humphrey's Ancient Coins*, page 6.

III. Avgostarvm Imagines æreis formis expressæ; Vitæ quoque earundem breuiter enarratæ, Signorum etiam, quæ in posteriori parte numismatū efficta sūt, ratio explicata: ab Aenea Vico Parmense. Feliciss. Othonis Truczis Cardin. Genio D. Venetiis M.D.LVIII. Cum priuilegijs. [4to. .10 leaves, 192 pp. and 2 leaves of errata.]

Renouard states that this book is certainly from the Aldine press, although it does not bear its imprint. The work is translated from the Italian edition of 1557, by Natalis Comes [Conti].

IV. Ex libris XXIII Commentariorvm in vetera Imperatorvm Romanorum numismata Aeneæ Vici, liber primvs. Venetiis. M.D.LX. Cum priuilegijs. [4to., 130 pp. of which 8 are plates; 1 leaf of errata, with the anchor and dolphin, and 8 leaves containing indexes, &c.]

Some copies are dated 1562; the edition is the same throughout, only the date being changed by the addition of II. A third edition was printed at Rome, Apud Mascardum, 1614, 4to. (See *American Journal of Numismatics*, Vol. XII, p. 13.) This work, together with No. III and the book mentioned below, were published by J. B. Duval, in one volume, Paris, 1619, 4to.

Vico published another numismatic book of some importance, which, though printed at Venice, is not from the Aldine Press: *Discorsi di Enea Vico*, Parmigiano, sopra le medaglie degli antichi, divisi in due libri. In Vinegia, 1555, 4to. Second edition, 1558, 4to.

RICHARD HOE LAWRENCE.

*New York City.*

### "NEOKOROI."

In the *Journal of Numismatics*, Vol. vii. p. 57, was an article on "the Temple Sweepers," or Neokoroi. The exact meaning of the word has caused some discussion, and we give below the opinion of Mr. Thomas L. Donaldson, an English antiquary and numismatist, taken from a valuable work entitled "*Architectura Numismatica*." Mr. Donaldson gives a different interpretation to this word from that contained in the article alluded to, and we believe his essay will be found of great value to all students of these interesting medals of antiquity.—Eds.

THE word *NEOKOPΟΣ* occurs on many hundred medals and on a few inscriptions, notably on those of the Oxford Marbles; but it is rarely met with in ancient authors, and then only in a casual way. It is found in the Acts of the Apostles, (xix. 35,) in the following passage, and forms a curious undesigned coincidence in proof of the authenticity of the sacred Scriptures; "Ἄνδρες Ἐφεσαιοι, τίς γάρ ἐστιν ἄνθρωπος ὃς οὐ γινώσκει τὴν Ἐφεσίων πόλιν νεωκόρον οὖσαν τῆς μεγάλης θεᾶς Ἀρτέμιδος; which is thus rendered in the English version, "Ye men of Ephesus, what man is there that knoweth not, how that the city of the Ephesians is a worshiper [guardian of the Temple] of the great goddess Diana &c."

English commentators, in further explanation of the word *Νεωκόρος*, here imperfectly translated as worshiper, recur to the common and ordinary meaning of the word, as a temple cleaner or sweeper. But architecturally considered, *Νεωκόρος* embraces a large topic of deep interest, ultimately carrying with it the erection and endowment of a temple by a city, by a community, or by a union of states. This honorific title of super-

intendence and guardianship of the sacred fane and its treasures, as also of the rites, ceremonies, festivals, games, college of priests, (flamines,) and communities connected therewith, was accompanied by great power, dignity and honor. Plato (v. 130, seq.) gives this title to the person or priest, whose duty it was to take care of a temple, and of the sacrifices; the same name is applied by Xenophon (Exp. v. 3, 6) to that officer of Artemis at Ephesus. In the "Ion" of Euripides is portrayed such an individual, and his duties are supposed by commentators to be thus defined:—

MERCURY. "O'er the treasures of the god  
The Delphians placed him, to his faithful care  
Consigning all, and in this royal dome  
His hallowed life he to this hour had passed.

I see

This son of Phœbus issuing forth t' adorn  
The gates before the shrine with laurel boughs."

ION. "My task, which from my early infancy  
Hath been my charge, shall be with laurel-boughs  
And sacred wreaths to cleanse the vestibule  
Of Phœbus; on the pavement moistening dews  
To rain; and with my bow to chase the birds,  
Which would defile the hallowed ornaments.  
A mother's fondness and a father's care  
I never knew: the temple of the god  
Claims then my service, for it nurtured me."—Potter.

But the Neokor was originally in the temple of gods alone. In later times the office existed in the fanes erected in honor of deified men. During the reign of the emperor Augustus we find the commencement of a system of deification of the city of Rome and the Roman emperors,—a superstitious adulation, which degenerated into a general system of consecration of each emperor after his decease, becoming a widespread practice among the towns of Asia Minor, where, from the peculiar character and antecedents of the people, it found a genial soil, and became the source of important privileges and wealth.

Tacitus (Annal. iv. 56, page 12.) states, that at the end of the second Punic war the Smyrnians had erected a temple to the "city of Rome;" and their legates before the senate, claimed it as a merit, "that they had been the first to do so, ere the state had arrived at its most palmy height, Carthage still standing, and the kings of Asia in power." Not long after, the inhabitants of Alabanda erected a like temple to Rome. From Dion Cassius (l. li. c. 20.) we learn that during the life-time of the emperor Augustus this worship of Rome, the city, greatly spread among the Asiatic cities, and thence extended to other Roman provinces. The first four cities, which the emperor constituted as Neokor, were Ephesus, Nicæa, Pergamus, and Nicomedia. The concession was granted to Ephesus and Nicomedia to erect jointly a temple to Rome and Julius Cæsar. Tacitus (lib. i. c. 68; Krause, p. 7.) mentions that in A. D. 15, Tarragona in Spain had the privilege accorded of erecting a temple to Augustus.

In what did this distinction consist? We have seen that the term Neokor signified a person connected with a temple, its rites and treasures. But when Augustus was emperor, the dependent states of the Roman empire found that the personal favor of the sovereign carried with it such important advantages, that they were anxious to secure the special patronage of the sovereign, and therefore petitioned the senate, that they might be permitted to erect a temple to his worship, which, if granted, required the confirmation of the emperor himself. The Seleucidan kings of Syria and the Egyptian Ptolemies are frequently designated as *θεοι* on coins and inscriptions; consequently we can understand how the eastern provinces of Rome should have been the first to imagine this species of adulation to conciliate the favor of their rulers. Krause draws attention to the distinction made by Augustus in the concession of imperial worship. He would not allow Roman citizens to erect a temple to himself, but "Urbi Romæ et Jul. Cæsari." And Suetonius, in his life of this emperor, (l. ii.) mentions that he would not permit any divine honors to himself within the city, and melted down all the silver statues that had been erected to him, and converted the whole into tripods, which he consecrated to Apollo Palatinus. But to

foreigners it was conceded to raise a temple to a living emperor,—a thing unheard of in Rome or Italy, as Tacitus and Dion bear witness; nor was it allowed to Roman citizens even in the provinces.

Eckhel (vol. p. 136.) has the following remark: "In the marble of Cymes Ætides, edited by Count Caylus, there is named Polemosas priest ΤΑΣ · ΠΟΜΑΣ · ΚΑΙ · ΑΥΤΟΚΡΑΤΟΡΟΣ · ΚΑΙΣΑΡΟΣ · ΘΕΩ · ΥΙΩ · ΣΕΒΑΣΤΟ. Therefore the Cmæans had a temple of Augustus while living, and even then designated ΘΕΟΣ ΣΕΒΑΣΤΟΣ."

The privilege so much desired was that of erecting a temple for the worship of a certain emperor, with his statue, whether in bronze or marble, an altar, a regular college or establishment of ministering priests (flamines,) certain rites and festivals, periodical games, immunities and rights as those of an asylum, and probably tributes for the maintenance of the worship.

This was sometimes assumed by a single city, as Ephesus; occasionally by two or more, then called *ῥημόνορα*; frequently by a metropolitan city in behalf of a province; and thus a city, state, or union had the title of ΝΕΩΚΟΡΟΝ. In order to commemorate and make generally known this distinctive honor, and possibly to attract a large concourse of strangers to the festivals, from which great wealth was probably derived, medals were struck bearing the distinctive word ΝΕΩΚΟΡΟΝ, often without any particular edifice on the reverse; sometimes with an altar, as in the instance of Cyzicus, again, with a female holding one or two temples in her hand, as in one of Perinthus, (Mionnet, t. i. p. 414, n. 333,) or with a single temple on the reverse; and that either of the Neokor temple, or of the principal one of the place, as in a medal of Ephesus to Artemis; at times with two, three, or four temples. On the reverse of a Neokor medal of Commodus, struck at Nicomedia, there are in the upper part two temples in a line represented in perspective, and beneath them a full-sized vessel with one bench of rowers and the usual ornamental prow and stern, thus showing that there were naval games also.

Buonarotti ("Osservazioni Istoriche sopra alcune Medaglie," 4to. Rom. 1698, p. 751.) is of opinion in his observations on a Neokor medal of Perinthus, that the multiplicity of temples may indicate the small temples, probably made of silver or gold, given as prizes to the conquerors in the games. He also suggests that they may be meant to represent the temples, not of marble or stone, but merely temporary erections of slighter materials, put up on the Circi (Pausan. de Circ.) or theatres, with the image of that god or emperor in whose honor the games were celebrated; particularly as they might before those images make the sacrifices usually offered previously to the beginning of the courses. In like manner, on such occasions, the circi, theatres, and other public places, were temporarily adorned with statues and ornaments, which were removed after the games. Thus Pliny (l. 36, c. 2.) mentions the three hundred and sixty columns of precious marble, which were put up for the temporary decoration of the scene of the theatre erected by Severus in his edileship. And Spartian notices a prodigy, which occurred before the death of Severus, when certain plaster-cast figures of Victory having been put up during the days of the Circensian festival, a thunder-bolt struck down the shield which one of them held in her hands, (probably part of a trophy that she bore.) In like manner, says Buonarotti, may have been made of wood or other like matter, the temples and statues of the deities to whom the games were dedicated. Possibly those who made them were the *fabricators*, in contradistinction to the sculptors. Thus Formicus, "Tornatores aut simulacrorum sculptores vel fabricatores;" and above, "Fabricatores, deorum facit vel divinorum sculptores simulacrorum, aut deorum ornatores."

But there will be observed the numerals Β · Γ and Δ on these medals; and by a curious coincidence in these instances, they frequently correspond with the numbers of the temples on the reverses, and would seem to refer thereto. But various instances may be cited where that correspondence does not exist. Nor can these numerals relate to the second, third, or fourth occasions of the celebration of the festivals, for the medals of the later emperor have in some cities an earlier number than that on a medal of a preceding reign, and *vice versa*. Thus the Neokor coins of Nicomedia



(Mionnet, t. v. sup. p. 209 seq.; 219, seq.) under Alexander Severus, have *TPIC · NEQK*; under subsequent emperors, *JIC*; and, again, under Valerian and Gallienus, *TPIC*. Ephesus (Eckhel, vol. iv. p. 294,) alone had a fourth Neokorate. Perhaps the numeral may refer to the number of the contests (agones) or prizes.

The term *NEQKOPOC*, therefore, signifies the temple and divine worship paid to a Roman emperor, and the attendant festivals connected with that privilege, the care and celebration of which were conferred as a special grace and favor on certain cities, communities, or provinces; or that the place, on whose coin it occurs, had been invested with the privilege of erecting a temple, etc., and providing the fitting priests, games, etc., in honor of the Roman emperor, whose name and titles appear on the obverse.

### MASONIC MEDALS.

[Continued from Volume XIV. p. 14.]

CCCCI. Obverse, Clothed bust to right. Legend, FRID. GUIL. COMES AB HOHENTHAL MINERVAE VATES SEMISAECULARIS • [Frederic William, Count von Hohenthal, semi-centennial Poet of Minerva Lodge.] Reverse, Three wreaths intertwined—one of oak, another of ivy, and the third of acacia; beneath is a sphinx seated and turned towards the left, below which in two lines, DIE IIL. DECEMBRIS | MDCCCXIII Over the wreaths is a circle of nine seven-pointed stars, above which is the legend VETANT MORI [They forbid (his memory) to die.] Silver. Size 26. Rare.\*

CCCCII. Obverse, Apollo standing and playing on his lyre; on the left is a square pillar of stone, on which he leans; laurel and roses are growing at its foot; on the right, in the distance, is a circular temple of four pillars, on a hill, illuminated by the sun, which rises behind it. Reverse, An open wreath of laurel tied with a bow at the bottom, in which NUR DEM | WÜRDIGEN | 5805 in three lines. [Only for him who is worthy.] Silver, (gilt,) bronze, and tin. Size 23. It is rare in silver.†

CCCCIII. Obverse, Two hands emerging from clouds hold a cornucopia, containing wheat, grapes, &c. Beneath it are the letters F. Z. G. the initials of the name of the Lodge, Ferdinand zur Glückseligkeit or Ferdinand of Felicity. Above is a scroll, its lower ends rolled up, bearing the legend FELIX NOS TENET COPULA [A fortunate or happy bond unites us.] From the lower ends of the scroll depends a ribbon, completing a circle around the field, to which at the bottom is attached a small jewel,—a crown on a star of rays, behind which is an equilateral triangle. Over the cornucopia is also a small star formed by a double triangle "braced." At the bottom, near the border, which is serrated, is LOOS DIR. on the left, and BLANKE FEC. on the right, in very small letters. Reverse, Legend, above, SAECULAR FEIER and below, MAGDEBURG and in the centre, in two lines, XXIII FEBRUAR | MDCCCLXI [Centennial Celebration, Feb. 23, 1861.] Border, serrated. Silver and bronze. Size 25.

CCCCIV. Obverse, An inverted triangle, a level, and a half moon, with the letters ESE interlaced and on the sides are leafy branches. Legend, LIAISON SANS PAREILLE. [An alliance without a parallel.] In exergue, IX. OCTOBR. | I. F.

\* The word Semisaecularis denotes semi-centennial, but the 50th anniversary of the Lodge occurred in March, 1791, the date 1766, given as that of its formation in the *July Journal* not being correct. It seems probable that the Medal was struck on some subsequent occasion, perhaps of the fiftieth anniversary of his initiation, or possibly the death of the poet, and commemorated his services on

the semi-centennial.

† This is a member's jewel of the Apollo Lodge, Leipsic. It is generally found with a loop by which it was worn suspended. The date probably alludes to the time when this badge was adopted, as the Lodge dates its foundation from 1747. (Findel, p. 267.)

in two lines. Reverse, An oak having on its trunk the Hebrew letter  $\aleph$  in an oval of rays. At the foot of the tree on the right a coffin, on the head of which is the letter B. Near it four arms, three of females, and one of a man, are clasping hands, crosswise. On the left of the tree is a cubic stone or altar, its side adorned with Masonic symbols. In the background is a group of stones. Legend, DU CHENE ET DU TOMBEAU [Of an oak and a tomb.] In exergue, MDCCXLVII. Silver.\*

CCCCV. Obverse, Bust to left, wearing orders and the jewel of a Grand Master; under the bust, in small letters, LOOS. Legend, in the outer circle, CARL GROSS-HERZOG VON MECKLENBURG STRELITZ and in the inner one, GEB. D. 10 OCTBR. 1741. GEST. D. 6 NOV. 1816. [Charles, Grand-duke, &c., born Oct. 10, 1741, died Nov. 6, 1816.] Reverse, Inscription in thirteen lines, DEM | FÜRSTEN | UND FREIMAURER; | DIE LOGEN | MECKLENBURGS: | ZU DEN DREI STERNEN, | TEMPEL DER WAHRHEIT, | PHOEBUS APOLLO, | HARPOKRATES | ZUR MORGENROTHER, | UND ZUM | FRIEDENSBUNDE. | 1817. [To the Prince and Freemason. The Mecklenburg Lodges of the Three Stars, the Temple of Truth, Phoebus Apollo, Harpocrates of the Aurora, (or Morning red,) and the Bond of Peace, 1817.] Silver and bronze.† Size 29.

CCCCVI. Obverse, Clothed bust, facing, of Baron Von Nettelblatt; around his neck is a ribbon from which hangs a cross (patee); a chain collar, from which is suspended a square, falls from his shoulders: on the coat, near the lapel on the left, LOOS D. in very small letters. Legend, On a slightly raised and roughened border, above, CHRIST. CARL FR. WILH. FREIH. VON NETTELBLADT and below, \* GEB. D. XV. FEBR. 1779 GEST. D. IX JUL. 1843 \* [Christian Charles Fr. William, Baron (Freiherr) Von Nettelblatt, born Feb. 15, 1779, died July 9, 1843.] Reverse, In a circle of twelve five-pointed radiant stars, the inscription in five lines, DEM | UNVERGESSLICHEN | SEINE | DANKBAREN | BRÜDER [To one never to be forgotten, his grateful brethren (dedicate this.)] Bronze. Size 26.

CCCCVII. Obverse, A draped female figure, having the square and compasses in her right hand, and a book in her arm, points with her left to a domed temple which she is approaching from the left. Its front has four Ionic pillars and three steps; the door is closed. In the pediment are the compasses, square and triangle interlaced: on its top a small figure in armor, and on the other corners are small draped figures. In the foreground, under the figure, LOOS in very small letters. In the distance, on the right, the sun rising from the sea. Legend, On a border slightly raised and roughened, MEKLENBURGS ERSTE FREIMAURERLOGE. ST. MICHAEL, GEGRÜNDET IN SCHWERIN. \* [Mecklenburg's first Masonic Lodge, St. Michael, founded in Schwerin.] In exergue, curving, D. 15. MAI 1754. Reverse, On a mosaic pavement is an altar, on which is a closed book; two burning tapers on the right, and one on the left; the frontal is adorned with the square and compasses surrounded by fourteen six-pointed stars. Above, in a radiant triangle, the All-seeing eye: on the

\* This Medal I describe from Merzdorf, who says, (p. 34.) that it was struck in Mecklenburg by order of the Grand Duchess Dorothea Sophia, shortly after the death of High Constable (Amtshauptmann) von Behmen. He says that a full explanation of the piece may be found in Evers, Mecklenburgische Munzverfassung, besonders die Geschichte derselben. (Schwerin 1798, 1799. II. 501.) I have not been able to consult that work. He gives the size as 1 8-12 zoll, (not far from 36 American scale,) and

the weight as 1½ loth. In the Hamburg Catalogue, p. 326, it is also mentioned, but erroneously called a token of the French "High Degrees."

† Pythagoras Lodge has this Medal in bronze. Merzdorf says that the statement in the Zacharias Catalogue that this Medal was struck "on the founding of the Provincial Lodge of Mecklenburg on the Hamburg Constitution," is imaginary, and not sustained by other authority.

pavement at the left, very small, SCHRODER. Legend, on a border like obverse, ZUR ERINNERUNG DIE PROV. □. V. MECKLENBURG-SCHWERIN U. STRELITZ ZU ROSTOCK. \* [For commemoration, the Provincial Lodge of Mecklenburg-Schwerin and Strelitz at Rostock.] In exergue, curving, D. 15. MAI 1854 Bronze. Size 24. This was struck in honor of the centennial of the Provincial Lodge\* above named, having its East at Rostock, and which has one of the finest collections, perhaps the best, of Masonic Medals.

CCCCVIII. Obverse, The interior of a Lodge room, surrounded by pillars; the top is open to the sky, and the radiant sun is seen above, on the left. Upon a mosaic pavement stands an altar on the left, its frontal adorned with the square and compasses, and near it the three burning tapers. A female figure enters from the right, where a draped curtain nearly conceals a door; in her left hand she has the square and compasses, and in her right a torch. In exergue, 1760. Legend, WIEDER EINFÜHRUNG D. MAUR. LICHTS I. MECKLENBURG DURCH D. □. Z. D. 3 STERNEN I. OR. ROSTOCK \* [Reintroduction of Masonic Light in Mecklenburg by the Lodge of the Three Stars in the Orient of Rostock.] Reverse, A pillar, over which are three six-pointed stars: on its capital is a globe, and on its shaft are a group of Masonic symbols,—the square, compasses, level and cable-tow interlaced, and the charter. In exergue, 1860. Legend, ZUR ERINNERUNG AN DIE SÄCULARFEIER DER LOGE ZU DEN 3 STERNEN IM OR. ROSTOCK \* [In commemoration of the Centennial of the Lodge of the Three Stars, in the Orient of Rostock.] Bronze. Size 28.†

CCCCIX. Obverse, The arms of the Lodge of the White Dove (zur Weissen Taube) of Neisse, a dove's nest on a tree, surrounded by Masonic working tools. Legend, in two lines, UNSER WISSEN IST EIN FRIEDENSZWEIG, DEN WIR VOR UNS HERTRAGEN | EIN HIRTENSTAB MIT DEM WIR DIE WELT WIEDEN. [Our knowledge is a branch of peace which we carry before us as a pastoral staff with which we pasture (or shepherd) the world.] In exergue, in two lines, FERD. GÖRLICH LOG. MSTR. | FRANZ CIRVES DEPT. MSTR. Reverse, Inscription in eight lines, DIE GER. U. V. ST. JOH Δ | ZUR WEISSEN TAUBE | ZU NEISSE. | GESTIFTET U. V. DER H. G. LANDES Δ V. DEUTSCHLAND Z. BERLIN ANERKANT | DEN XXIV. NOVBR. 1773. | FEIERT IHR 50JÄHRG. BESTEHEN | DEN XXIV. NOVBR. 1823. [The just and perfect ‡ St. John's Lodge of the White Dove, at Neisse. Founded by and in union with the M. W. Grand Land-Lodge of Germany, at Berlin, recognized Nov. 24, 1773. Celebrated its semi-centennial Nov. 24, 1823.] This Medal is of iron.

CCCCX. Obverse, Within a circle formed by a snake devouring its tail, a five-pointed star, surmounted by a triangle, on which, within a circle, are the letters I. | Z. E. in two lines; (the initials of the name of the Lodge, Joseph zur Einigkeit; § Joseph of Harmony, of Nürnberg.) Reverse, Within a wreath of laurel the inscription in four lines, DEM | VERDIENSTE | SEINE | KRONEN. [Its crowns (or rewards) for the meritorious.] Silver and bronze. Size 21.

The Lodge "zum Goldnen Hirsch," or the Golden Stag, of Oldenburg, says Merzdorf, has struck no Masonic Medals of its own, but presented to

\* It will be observed that Mecklenburg is spelled without a c on both obverse and reverse. An account of this Centennial celebration was printed, and a copy is contained in the very extensive library of Pythagoras Lodge.

† This Medal is in the Pythagoras Collection.

‡ This Medal I describe from Merzdorf. The abbreviations have already been explained, except the v which I take to be for Vereinigte. Anerkant is so spelled on the

Medal. Its size I have not ascertained.

§ The Lodge Joseph zur Einigkeit, founded in 1761, presented to its brothers who had completed twenty-five years of Masonic service, a silver Medal, similar to that above described. The design of the obverse is the same with that of the seal of the Lodge. Pythagoras Lodge has one of these in bronze, gilt, and in its library an account of the seventy-fifth anniversary of the Lodge.



the presiding officers of "Sister Lodges," (bodies formed under laws somewhat like those of the French Adoptive rite, and which met in the first decade of the present century,) three looped Medals, from dies by Loos; their peculiar origin, of which the Medals themselves give no evidence, and the bodies for which they were struck, give them place in Merzdorf, and I therefore include them. He describes them as follows:—

CCCCXI. Obverse, Hymen places on an altar, consecrated to conjugal love, a crown of myrtle. On the front of the altar are two right hands joined; below, on the left, are turtle doves, while roses and evergreen spring up and bloom around it. Legend, GLÜCK DER EHE [Happiness of marriage.] In exergue, LOOS. Reverse, Inscription in sixteen lines, from Homer, NICHTS | IST WAHRlich | SO WÜNSCHENSWERTH | UND ERFREUEND, | ALS WENN MANN UND WEIB, | IN HERZLICHERLIEBE | VEREINIGT, | RUHIG IHR HAUS | VERWALTEN: | DEN FEINDEN | EIN KRÄNKENDER ANBLICK; | ABER | WONNE DEN FREUNDEN, | UND MEHR NOCH | GENIESSEN | SIE SELBER. [Nothing surely is so desirable and pleasing, as when husband and wife, united in heartfelt love, jointly carry on their households. For their enemies a mortifying spectacle; but for their friends a delightful one, and much more do they enjoy it themselves.] Silver. Size 30.

CCCCXII. Obverse, Various implements of manly industry, lying on a square stone, here intended as an emblem of constancy, and typifying, says Merzdorf, the eternal duration of man's labor, united with strength. A female figure bends over these implements and wreaths them with a garland of roses. In exergue, LOOS. Reverse, Inscription, three stanzas from Schiller, arranged in thirteen lines: EHRE | DEN FRAUEN! | SIE | FLECHTEN | UND | WEBEN | HIMMLISCHE ROSEN | IN'S | IRDISCHE LEBEN | FLECHTEN | DER LIEBE | BEGLÜCKENDES | BAND. [Honor the ladies! they twine and weave heavenly roses into earthly life and twine the blessed tie of love.] Silver. Size 25 nearly.

CCCCXIII. Obverse, A mother, seated, instructs a child sitting before her, in reading, while she nurses the babe on her breast. A distaff, the emblem of a housewife's industry, leans against her seat. Legend, above, SÜSSE MUTTERPFLICHT. [Sweet maternal duty.] In exergue, LOOS. Reverse, Inscription in ten lines, WEM EIN | TUGENDSAM | WEIB | BESCHERET IST | DIE | IST VIEL EDLER | ALS DIE | KÖSTLICHSTEN | PERLEN. | SPR. SALOM. 31. v. 10 [Who can find a virtuous woman, for her price is far above rubies. Proverbs of Solomon, ch. 31. v. 10.] Silver. Size 30 nearly.

There is a Medal of Dr. Ehmsben of Osnabruck, refused a place by Merzdorf, in his Catalogue, though alluded to incidentally as often added to Masonic collections, because he was a prominent and popular member of the Order. The obverse bears the portrait facing, of a very stout man, his coat buttoned across his breast, and wearing a ruffled shirt. Around is the inscription, IOH GOTTL. EHMBSEN I. U. D. STADTRICHT. IN OSNABRUCK GEB. D. 11 NOV. 1773 GEST. D. 7. MAI 1827. The reverse has a long and eulogistic inscription in nine lines, under a small triangle, through which passes a cornucopia, all inclosed in a circle of forty-six six-pointed stars. The dies were designed by G. Loos, and cut by C. Pfeuffer, whose names appear on the reverse. Bronze, very thick planchet. Size 29. It was struck in memory of Dr. Ehmsben, by friends, among whom were his Masonic brethren, but has nothing distinctly Masonic about it, and is merely mentioned here, without special description, for the reasons given above.

261 See Denkmünzen, &c., p. 36, No. 78. This statement of Merzdorf, who was a resident of Oldenburg, was made in 1841. The Lodge celebrated its Centennial, Dec. 6, 1852. From his numismatic zeal, and his influence in

the Order, one would suppose a Medal would have been struck in honor of that event, but up to the present time I have met with none.

CCCCXIV. Obverse, A rose-bush with three roses. Legend, EX VULNERE DECOR. [Honor from the wound.] In exergue, in three lines, SOC. MURAR. HABIT. [III ROSAR.] 1753. [Masonic Lodge of the Three Roses.] Reverse, A beehive and bees in a flowery meadow. Legend, SCRUTARI PERICULUM [A danger to be considered.] In exergue, in two lines, MAG. EQ. SCYTH. [1753. These abbreviations I have not deciphered. Merzdorf considers this a Medal of doubtful existence, knowing it only from an engraving on the title of an "Address for the enemies of Masonry, 1753."

CCCCXV. Obverse, A square and extended compasses, the points touching the ends of the arms of the square, enclosing a blazing star, five-pointed, (in the form of a pentalpha.) Reverse, Two pillars, between which, above, hangs a chain; below is the sun, with a crescent moon above it, and a cross patee beneath; on the left is a triangular level, and on the right one of the ordinary form. In exergue, in four lines, d. XIV. Julii CIO IO CCCXIII | vollendete XXV Jahre | d. □ z. w. Eintracht | im O. Schweidnitz. [The fourteenth day of July, 1813, completed twenty-five years for the Lodge of True (wahre) Harmony, Orient of Schweidnitz.] Iron. Size 26.

W. T. R. MARVIN.

### GOLD MEDALET OF THE CONFEDERACY.

THE last number of the *Journal* contained a reference to silver Half Dollars, said to have been struck at the New Orleans Mint, while in the hands of the rebel government, the existence of which seems to be tolerably well authenticated. The *Richmond Standard* of August 9, 1879, publishes the following account of a Confederate States gold medalet of 1861:—

"There is in the possession of C. F. Johnston, music, musical instrument, and news dealer, 918 East Main Street, in this city, an interesting memorial of the late Confederate States of America. It is a coin or medalet of fine gold, eleventh-sixteenths of an inch in diameter, with milled edge, nearly one-sixteenth of an inch in thickness. Obverse: The head of the Confederate President in bold relief and in profile, to the left, with the initials, C. R. closely beneath, and the title, "Jefferson Davis," encircling above. Reverse: The typical wreath of acacia of the United States coins, enclosing the date "1861." Legend above: "First President, C. S. A." Mr. Johnston states that he was informed by the lady from whom he obtained the medalet, that it was designed by the late Gen. Charles Dimmock. Information is desired in confirmation or correction of this statement, as well as regarding the occasion of making or intention of the medalet, by whom engraved, the number struck, in what metals, and, indeed, anything of interest regarding it."—R. A. B.

Our attention having been called to this item, we wrote to Mr. R. A. Brock, of Richmond, Va., who sends us the following in regard to it:

*To the Editors of the Journal of Numismatics:*

The C. S. A. medalet, it is fair to presume, was designed (the drawing, I suppose,) by the late Gen. Charles Dimmock, as I have seen a letter from his daughter, who disposed of the specimen described, in which she states that the design was furnished by her father, in 1861, since which time the medal has been in her possession. I have no surmise as to the engraver.

The medalet in question I think not so well executed as it would have been if prepared since the war and designed for sales. The metal, gold, too, is against such a supposition; and this specimen has been worn as a charm, suspended by a loop which was soldered to the coin. It bears the marks, too, of an attempt at piercing, on both sides, near the edge, for the same purpose. If I learn anything further I will write to you.

Faithfully,

R. A. B.

## MEDAL FOR SWIMMING.

THE recent swimming contests between Webb and Boyton have reminded me of a Medal in my collection, which may be of sufficient interest to bear description in the *Journal*. It was struck as a premium for the winner of a match in the Serpentine, London, August 12, 1867, and was awarded, with the amateur captaincy of the Alliance Club, to C. J. Miller, who won the race, over a course of six hundred yards by nearly forty feet. The obverse of the medal shows a swimmer, buffeting the waves "with lusty sinews," while the billows curve and dash over his head. On the bank is another, plunging in to join a third, who is seen in the waves at the right. Legend above, EXCELSIOR. At the bottom, on the right, in very small letters, W. J. TAYLOR. Reverse, A wreath of aquatic plants, water lilies, flags, &c., surrounding an engraved inscription: Alliance Swimming Club, 600 Yds Race for the Captaincy, Won by C. J. Miller, Aug. 12th, 1867. Below the wreath in very small letters, appears W. J. TAYLOR LONDON. The edge has the names engraved of the other contestants, in the order of their coming in. The dies are finely cut, and the medal is beautifully struck, though the water is not so well represented as it might be. Silver. Size 30 nearly. c. c.

## A NEW FRENCH COIN.

A dollar of a weight of 27.215 grammes, and equivalent in value to the dollar of the United States, is now being issued from the Mint in Paris. It is intended for circulation in Cochin China, where the normal Five-Franc pieces of the French coinage, which are nominally exactly equal to the United States Dollar, have suffered depreciation in consequence of the general fall in the value of silver, and are worth, in fact, only four-and-a-half Francs, or a depreciation of ten per cent.

## CANADIAN NUMISMATICS.

## FRENCH REGIME.

BY R. W. McLACHLAN.

In preparing an amended Catalogue of Coins and Medals relating to Canada, I intend to depart somewhat from the order adopted by Sandham. Describing first those issued during the French Regime, I shall then take up the separate provinces in order, giving priority to the numismatically more important ones. As I intend to describe medals under the respective provinces to which they belong, no separate heading will be necessary for that department. Such information as may prove interesting to collectors will be given under the description of each coin to which it may relate, and with these preliminary remarks I will at once enter upon the proper work of this paper.

I. *Obv.* LUD. XIII. D. G. FR. ET. NAV. REX. Laureated bust of Louis XIV. to the right. Mint mark, a sun.

*Rev.* GLORIAM. REGNI. V. TVI. DICENT. 1670 Arms of France crowned. Mint mark, a tower. Size 21 millimeters.

As colonies, in their infancy, seem to have been in a chronic state of impecuniosity, every imaginable expedient was attempted to retain sufficient of the circulating medium for the wants of the people within the country. They all seemed to fail. This special coinage for Canada was no exception; for among the Canadian collectors there are only three specimens, and these are importations. This was first recognized as Canadian, on



this continent, by Prof. Anthon, having been noticed by him at length in Vol. V, p. 65, in the *Journal*; it is also mentioned by Sandham, in the supplement to the "Coins of Canada," page 6.

II. *Obv.* As last.

*Rev.* As last. Size 27 millimeters.

Although this coin has been known, for a long time, as the Fifteen Sol Piece described by Leblanc, in the "Traite Historique des Monnoyes de France," page 388, no specimen was known in America until Mr. Anthon's article appeared in Vol. XI, p. 49, of this Journal. It is there held, on what I consider slender grounds,\* along with the preceding piece, to relate to the United States. This idea I combatted in a review of the above article in the *Canadian Antiquarian*, Vol. V, page 194.

III. *Obv.* SIT. NOMEN. DOMINI. BENEDICTUM. Two L's crossed, surmounted by a crown.

*Rev.* COLONIES FRANÇOISES 1721 H occupying the whole field. Size 26 m.

This coin, together with the one following, is described by Dickeson in the "American Numismatic Manual," page 73. It is there claimed as relating to Louisiana, upon similar grounds to Mr. Anthon's for the *Gloriam Regni*. Canada, at that time being by far the most important, as well as the most populous of the French colonies, I have no doubt these coins circulated freely among its inhabitants, for whom they were mainly coined, until exported, as were all other moneys brought to Canada in those times. Crosby, in the "Early Coins of America," omitted them, as having no direct reference to the United States.

IV. *Obv.* As last.

*Rev.* Same as last, except that the date is 1722. Size 26 m.

Dickeson, in rather ambiguous phraseology, states that there are four types and six varieties of these colonial pieces of 1721 and 1722; but he does not designate in what the differences consist. Thus far, the only varieties I have been able to make out, are those indicated by the dates, as above described. That of 1722 seems to be much more plentiful, specimens having occasionally been met with in circulation at the present day in Canada.

V. *Obv.* LUD. XV. REX CHRISTIANISS. *Ex.* D.V. Laureated bust in armor to the right.

*Rev.* SUB OMNI SIDERE CRESCUNT. *Ex.* COL. FR. DE LAM. 1751. Indian with bow and quiver, walking, while he looks back toward a group of lilies.

These jetons are only a few out of a large number issued under this and the preceding reign, relating to every imaginable subject. As a description of them has appeared lately in this Journal, (Vol. XIII, page 67,) a more extended account of them is here unnecessary. This jeton, no doubt, declares that French colonies were flourishing at that time in every clime.

VI. *Obv.* LUD. XV. REX CHRISTIANISS. *Ex.* B. DUVIV. Bust of Louis, with long hair tied with ribbon and bow.

*Rev.* UTRIQUE FACIT COMMERCIA MUNDI. *Ex.* COL. FRANC. DE L'AM. 1752. Mercury hovering over the sea. Buildings on the shore under the letters C N. R. Size 26 m.

Relating, no doubt, to the extension of French commerce, that was to be accelerated, or had already shown signs of improvement, through the building up of a vast colonial empire.

\* The correctness of the claim advanced by Prof. Anthon depends on what is meant by the term "Canada," which at the time the *Gloriam Regni* was struck, included a large portion of the present territory of the Union; and these pieces were the "current coin of the realm" as much on the Mississippi as on the St. Lawrence. We therefore cannot agree with our contributor in his conclusions, and fail to see any reason why this piece is not properly included among our colonials, or why "Canadian" pieces should be limited to that portion only of the territory of the British Crown which to-day retains the name of "Canada."—EDS.

VII. *Obv.* LUD. XV. REX CHRISTIANISS. *Ex.* J. C. R in monogram; diademed head of Louis to the right.

*Rev.* SATIS UNUS UTRIQUE. *Ex.* COL. FRANC. DE L'AM. 1753. The sun shining on two hemispheres, inscribed with initials of their names. Size 26 m.

These suggest that as one sun was sufficient for two hemispheres, so, also, one king (that of France,) was adequate. An idle boast, soon to be proved empty by the extinction of French dominion in America.

VIII. *Obv.* LUD. XV. REX CHRISTIANISS. *Ex.* FM Laureated bust of Louis in armor to the right.

*Rev.* NON INFERIORA METALLIS. *Ex.* COL. FRANC. DE L'AM. 1754. Three beavers at work on left of a stream; on right Indian corn growing; underneath, the letters C. N. R. Size 26 m.

This has reference to the failure to obtain the much-desired precious metals in Canada. It is here indicated that the fur trade, represented by beavers, of which the French almost held a monopoly, was in no degree inferior to the products of the Spanish possessions.

IX. *Obv.* LUD. XV. REX CHRISTIANISS. Bust of Louis to right, hair tied with ribbon and resting on his shoulders.

*Rev.* Same as last. Size 26 m.

A variety, struck most likely from reverse die of last, with obverse of No. XIII.

X. *Obv.* LUD. XV. REX CHRISTIANISS. *Ex.* FM Bust of Louis in lion's skin to right; hair tied with a bow.

*Rev.* NON VILIUS AUREO. *Ex.* COL. FRANC. DE LAM. 1755. Ancient galley, from the top of which hangs a "golden" fleece. Size 26 m.

Many were the Jasons, in those adventurous days, who set out for New France, expecting to return with the much-coveted auriferous prize. But the fleecing of the poor *habitants*, indulged in by some of their governors, was the nearest approach to the golden fleece to which they ever attained. To this cause, more than to all others, may we attribute the failure of French anticipations in building up a glorious empire in America.

XI. *Obv.* Same as No. VIII.

*Rev.* Same as No. X. Size 26 m.

This, like No. IX, is struck from dies belonging to two different specimens. There may be others thus struck from mixed dies, but at present I have only heard of two.

XII. *Obv.* LUD. XV. REX CHRISTIANISS. *Ex.* R. FILIUS. Laureated head to right.

*Rev.* SEDEM NON ANIMUM MUTANT. *Ex.* COL. FRANC. DE L'AM. 1756. Two bee-hives with a swarm of bees between. Size 27 m.

Having reference to migrations of the French to the colonies. They, while leaving the mother land, do not lose their love of France or allegiance to her king.

XIII. *Obv.* Same as No. IX.

*Rev.* PARAT ULTIMA TERRA TRIUMPHOS. *Ex.* COL. FRANC. DE L'AMERIQUE 1757. Mars with spear and shield of France, and Neptune with trident floating on a shell. Size 26 m.

Some advantage gained over the English is no doubt here commemorated. Short lived it was, for, with the investing of Canada by Wolfe and Boscawen, the issue of these jetons ceased, and with them closed the series of French numismatics in Canada.

XIV. *Obv.* LUD. XV. REX CHRISTIANISS. *Ex.* B DUVIV. Laureated bust of Louis, with hair tied with ribbon.

*Rev.* EADEM TRANS AEQUORA VIRTUS. *Ex.* COL. FRANC. DE L' AM. 1758. A sea having a rocky shore on the right, with buildings on the left. A flock of eagles flying towards the former. Size 26 m.

The French colonists, in the early troubled times, were famed for their daring in encounters with the Indians and the English. This has reference to some such deeds of valor.

XV. *Obv.* .FR. CHRIST. DE. LEVI. D. DAMPVILLE. P. FRANC. PROREX. AMERICA. *Ex.* I. HARDY. F. 1658. Bust in armor to the right, with long hair streaming over the shoulders.

*Rev.* .EX. TE. ENIM. EXIET. DVX. QUI. REGAT. POPVLVM. MEVM. Arms quartered on an ermine mantle surmounted by a ducal coronet. Size 51 m.

The arms on the reverse of this medal are highly elaborate, the first and fourth quarter being alike, as also the second and third, while each is again quartered. There seems to be some doubt as to whether De Levis ever visited Canada, being rather a home functionary, superintending the whole French possessions in America.

XVI. *Obv.* LUDOVICUS MAGNUS REX CHRISTIANISSIMUS. *Ex.* DOLLIN. F. Head of Louis XIV. with flowing hair.

*Rev.* FRANCIA IN NOVO ORBE VICTRIX. *Ex.* KEBECA LIBERATA M.DC.XC. France seated on a rock, resting an arm on a shield with arms of France; on either side flags, and a shield at her feet. At the foot of the rock to the right is a river god, while a beaver crawls down the rock in front. Size 42 m.

This medal was struck to commemorate the defeat of Sir William Phipps before Quebec. It is described by Sandham, page 51, and also in the Journal, Vol. IX, page 1. In both, illustrations are given that differ widely from the original. The artist's name is not given under the bust, while the reverse is misrepresented in many particulars. The beaver is represented on the left, crawling upwards, whereas on the medal it is on the right, crawling down. The size of the engraving is larger. More than once my attention has been called to a new variety of the *Kebece Liberata* medal. That these illustrations were obtained from the same source there can be no doubt. Copied from an engraving found in an old volume, we have a sample of numismatic illustration of the early part of the eighteenth century, where detail was neglected and uniformity of size carefully followed.

XVII. *Obv.* Similar to last; a slight difference in the arrangement of the hair. *Ex.* I. MAVGER. F.

*Rev.* Same as last. Size 42 m.

This and the following are simple varieties, different obverse dies having been used. While the heads resemble each other closely, still there is enough variation to show the styles of the different artists who executed the dies.

XVIII. *Obv.* Similar to No. XVI; hair much fuller. *Ex.* R.

*Rev.* Same as XVI. Size 42 m.

This is somewhat scarcer than the other two, and I am inclined to believe that it is the original combination of obverse and reverse.

XIX. *Obv.* LUDOVICUS XV. D. G. FR. ET NAV. REX. *Ex.* DU VIVIER. Young laureated bust of Louis in toga.

*Rev.* LUDOVICOBURGUM FUNDATUM ET MUNITUM. *Ex.* M.DCC.XX. View of the fort and harbor of Louisburg, with vessels in the harbor and at sea. Size 43 m.

The foundation of Louisburg, and the erection of its almost impregnable battlements, well deserve the commemorative recognition of a medal; for had it been properly defended, it would have long remained a bulwark against the encroachments of English aggression.



XX. *Obv.* PAX UBIQUE VICTRIX *Ex.* GALLORUM ET BRITANNORUM CONCORDIA MDCCCLXIII. Peace standing, holding in her right hand an olive branch, and in her left a caduceus. At her feet a nude male figure is seated on a battering ram, with flags and implements of ancient warfare.

*Rev.* Same as last. Size 43 m.

One would suppose that more care would be taken in the manipulation of the dies at such an institution as the *Musée Monétaire*. But the above mule I received in place of a Louisburg Medal ordered. I also ordered the Peace Medal, and received in its place the two obverses struck together, forming a double-headed medal of Louis XV. We can thus account for the Kebeca Liberata Medal occurring with three different obverses,—dies having been taken out of their proper places and returned promiscuously.

[To be continued.]

### A NEW PAPAL MEDAL.

We take the following account of a Medal lately struck in honor of the Roman Pontiff, and his coronation, from a Vienna monthly journal, devoted to Numismatics, entitled *Numismatische Blätter*, and to which we have been indebted heretofore for interesting items.

A MEDAL has been struck by Herr Wittig, an Austrian artist residing in Rome, in honor of Pope Leo XIII., which is said to be the first portrait medal of the Holy Father that has yet appeared. The dies are engraved in the style of the Renaissance, the obverse bearing an excellent likeness of Pope Leo, with the legend, LEO XIII. PONT. M. EL. D. XX. M. FEB. A. MDCCCLXXVII. The reverse represents the Pontiff kneeling to receive the keys from the Saviour, who points with His left hand to a church in splendor. The Cardinals, Di Pietro, Mertel, Borromeo, Catterini, and Consolini, who bring forward the tiara, are portraits from life. Near the Saviour is an angel, who directs attention to the words CORONATUS D. III. MENS. MARTII. Legend, TIBI DABO. CLAVES. REGNI. COELORVM. MATTH. 16. The size is nine centimeters, and the price of the medal, which is to be sold by subscription, is, in bronze, 100, silver, 200, and gold, 1,500 francs. The workmanship is highly praised. The same artist has also engraved the dies for medals of Franz Liszt, and of Michael Angelo.

### THE JEWISH COINAGE OF THE EMPEROR HADRIAN.

*Editors American Journal of Numismatics:*

I ENCLOSE some extracts from an article by Ernest Renan, in the July "Contemporary Review," entitled "The Last Jewish Revolt." It is evident that M. Renan has devoted some of his time to the study of coins. Below is the extract, which you may think worth preserving in the *Journal*.

"After a sojourn of two years in Rome, the Emperor Hadrian grew weary of repose, and began afresh to dream of travel. (A. D. 131.) First he visited Mauritania, then turned his steps for the second time in the direction of Greece and the East. Athens held him fast for nearly a year. He consecrated the buildings he had ordered on the occasion of his first journey. Greece was in a festive condition, and lived on him and his doings. Classical memories everywhere revived. Hadrian rendered them permanent by monuments and *cippi*, founded temples, chairs, libraries. The old world previous to dying made a pilgrimage to the places whence it sprung, and seemed to celebrate its last festivals. The Emperor presided as pontiff at these harmless solemnities, which hardly continued to amuse any but the empty-headed and the idle. The

august traveler next pursued his course through the East; visited Armenia, Asia Minor, Syria, and Judea. If we look only to externals, he was everywhere received as a tutelary divinity. Coins struck expressly for him welcomed him to every province. We still possess those of Judea. Alas, how false they were! Beneath the legend ADVENTVI. AVG. IVDAEAE. appears the Emperor in a noble and dignified attitude graciously receiving Judea, who presents her sons to him. We can trace in the Emperor that fine, gentle, philosophical expression of countenance that belongs to the Antonines, and seems the very personification of calm civilization holding fanaticism in check. Children bearing palms precede him. In the midst a pagan altar and a bull symbolize religious reconciliation. Judea, a *patra* in her hand, seems to participate in the sacrifice about to be offered. This is the way in which official optimism keeps sovereigns informed."

The writer goes on to describe the real state of Judea at that time—the disaffection that existed there. The Jews were arming for the third time. They soon broke out in open revolt, led by a personage who gave himself out as the long expected Messiah. He was called by the Christians, Bar-Cochebas, ("Son of Coziba") or son of a star. Then, in M. Renan's own words:—"The first care of the insurgents was the monetary question. One of the daily tortures faithful Jews had to undergo, was the handling of money bearing the effigy of the Emperor and idolatrous images. For religious offerings more particularly, coins of the Asmonean princes, which still circulated in the country, were assiduously sought out, or else those struck in the first revolt, when the Asmonean coinage had been imitated. The new insurrection was too poor and too ill provided with tools to issue new types. Its members were contented to withdraw from circulation such pieces as bore images of Flavius and Trajan, and to strike them anew with orthodox types that the people were familiar with, and which had in their eyes a national significance. It is probable that some ancient coins were discovered and facilitated the operation. The beautiful coins of Simon Maccabeus, the first Jewish prince who ever coined money, were especially chosen for this purpose. Their era, which was that 'of the liberty of Israel,' or 'of Jerusalem,' pointed them out as expressly made for existing circumstances. Still more appropriate were those that displayed the temple surmounted by a star, or those presenting the simple image of the two trumpets, destined, according to the law, to convoke Israel to the holy war. The superimposed impression was coarsely done, and in a great number of coins the primitive Roman type is still visible. This coinage is called 'the money of Coziba,' or 'the money of the revolt.' As it was partly fictitious, it lost, later on, much of its value."

R. H. L.

*New York City.*

## A MEMENTO OF BULL'S RUN.

*Editors American Journal of Numismatics:*

In looking over one of the earlier volumes of your valuable Journal, my attention was attracted to an article descriptive of two Confederate medals, of Stonewall Jackson and of Beauregard; and as all mementos of "the late unpleasantness" have an historic value, I have thought mention of one in our Historical Society not out of place in your columns. Its being in so unpretentious a metal as lead will not, I trust, deprive it of proper recognition, for it must be remembered that lead was at a premium in the shooting season the event commemorated so emphatically opened. The medal is of the size of an old dollar. The device of the obverse is a full-face ass's head, over and around which is a three-quarter circle of thirteen stars; on either side the letters "U. S." and below, across the field, "Bull's Run, 1861." An eagle occupies the centre of the reverse; and the legend, "Long Legs and Live Weights," encircles the field.

Where this memento of an action which neither side in these days would care to medalize, even in soap, originated, I have no knowledge; but certain it is, that it was given to a gentleman in this city by one in Toronto, whither it had probably been taken by one of the "chivalry" to whom the Southern air had become uncomfortably hot, and to whom the lion was a less dangerous animal than the eagle.

*Cleveland, Ohio, June 13, 1879.*

## TRANSACTIONS OF SOCIETIES.

## BOSTON NUMISMATIC SOCIETY.

*May 2.* A monthly meeting was held this day. The Secretary read the report of the last meeting, which was accepted; he also announced donations of the bronze medal of Eli K. Price, from the Numismatic and Antiquarian Society of Philadelphia, and of two pamphlets from Henry Phillips, Jr., of Philadelphia. For both of these the thanks of the Society were voted. Mr. Crosby showed two different Half Cents of 1796, and a rare variety of New Jersey Cent, with a doubt if the latter were genuine. Mr. Woodward exhibited a small lot of odd miscellaneous pieces and some fine German Thalers. The Secretary showed one of the specimens of the exceedingly rare token of Richard Dawson, Gloucester, Virginia. The Society adjourned shortly after 5 P. M.

*June 6.* A monthly meeting was held this day. The Secretary read the report of the last meeting, which was accepted, and a letter from Mrs. Lea Ahlborn, of Stockholm, accepting honorary membership. The President announced a donation from G. F. Ulex, of Hamburg, Germany, of two copies of a rare variety of Annapolis Shilling and a jeton of Louis XVI, of France, dated 1777. The Secretary announced donations of Washington Medals, etc., from Isaac F. Wood, of New York, and of a pamphlet from S. K. Harzfeld, of Philadelphia, on *Falsification of Ancient Coins*; for all of these the thanks of the Society were voted. The President showed a collection of Papal medals, and a selection from the choice gold belonging to the late George W. Pratt, of the Society. Mr. Crosby exhibited a Half Crown of James I, of England. Mr. Woodward showed several pieces, including ancient silver Hindoo, gold of Pescennius Niger, etc. The Society adjourned at about 5 P. M.

WM. S. APPLETON, *Sec'y.*

## NUMISMATIC AND ANTIQUARIAN SOCIETY OF PHILADELPHIA.

The regular April meeting was held at the usual hour, with President Price in the chair. A number of letters were read and donations and deposits for the library and cabinets received. A silver-chased gorget, or medal, presented to John T. Wheeler, Nov. 2, 1814, composed of two thin plates hammered together; a golden pentadrachm of Ptolemy I. of Egypt, in perfect condition, and a gold double stater, bearing on one side the heads of Ptolemy and Berenice, and on the other those of Ptolemy II. and Arsinoe accolated; a medal of Henry Meiggs, commemorating the opening of the railway over the Andes in Chili; a silver coin of Sardis, (in Lydia) with a bull and lion facing each other; some remarkable amber intaglios, and a knitting-needle which was thrown up by an earthquake in Chili from an old Indian grave, were also exhibited by members of the Society. Various committees reported, and Mr. S. K. Harzfeld then read a paper upon the falsification of ancient coins, setting out the danger and the remedy, showing that such forgeries were easy to detect.

Mrs. Lea Ahlborn, the medallist and die-sinker of the Swedish Royal Mint, was elected a member of the Society. In addition to her work on coins, she has executed a number of medals, among which is one of the late Queen of Sweden, which is esteemed an excellent likeness, and is finely done. Mr. Mickley placed several medals of her execution on exhibition in the Woman's Pavilion of the Centennial. Adjourned.

A stated meeting was held at the hall, May 4. President Price in the chair. Various special committees reported progress and were continued. A number of letters were read, and several interesting coins were exhibited, among which was a silver Five-franc piece of Louis Philippe, bearing date 1848. As the revolution which dethroned him occurred in February, 1848, it is very probable that such pieces are scarce. There were also exhibited a gold quadruple ducat of John Casimir, King of Poland, about 1650, a gold piece of the Duke of Saxony, the confession piece of John George I., 1630, a silver coin of Emmanuel Pinto, 1759, issued by the Knights of Malta, and a series of five Brunswick crowns, with the savage man holding the tree in different attitudes till he has finally wrenched it from the earth and holds it transversely.



Mr. Philip Howard Law then read an essay upon the causes which led to the English Revolution of 1640. A discussion ensued, which was participated in by Dr. Brinton, Mr. Chandler, President Price and others. Dr. Brinton made a communication in reference to some interesting discoveries recently made in Guatemala, near the village of Cozumel Whualpa. A number of basaltic stones have been found, with bas-reliefs, displaying a new form of American art, and full of symbolism of the most remarkable nature. It is to be noticed that no city or ruins of a city exist where these have been found. The Smithsonian Institution has accepted them as genuine, although they present a comparatively modern treatment of antique subjects. After the discussion of the papers, a number of members were elected, and the Society adjourned.

J. HAYS CARSON, *Rec. Sec'y.*

#### AMERICAN NUMISMATIC AND ARCHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF NEW YORK.

MAY 20. The regular meeting of the Society was held at their rooms, Mott Memorial Hall at 8.30 P. M., Vice President Daniel Parish, Jr. presiding. Mr. William Boerum Wetmore of New York was elected to Resident Membership, and Gen. Gates P. Thruston, of Nashville, Tenn., a Corresponding Member for two years. Letters were read from various gentlemen, and the Librarian reported the purchase of Loubat's *Medallic History of the United States* by subscription, and also a number of donations from different sources.

The Secretary read a letter from Messrs. Mason & Co. of Philadelphia, offering to dispose of a Confederate silver Half Dollar; also the reverse die for the same. The Curator, Mr. Lawrence, reported donations of one white metal Washington Medal, and the reverse cancelled die of the Norwalk Medal from Mr. I. F. Wood; thirty-nine pieces Confederate Notes and Bonds from Richard H. Lawrence, and forty-one arrow and spear heads from H. C. Lawrence.

The following exhibitions were made:—By Mr. Zabriskie,—A gold Lincoln, rev. Washington, size 12, from the recent Moore Sale; an Oliver Cromwell Medal, ins. "The Lord of Hosts at Dunbar," rev. a representation of the Long Parliament, silver, oval. By Mr. Pryer,—a Charles I. Pound piece, silver, in very good condition, very rare, and also an engraved medal with raised bust of Charles I., supposed to be unique, and a Crown of Edward VI., 1552. By Mr. Parish,—A Medal struck in commemoration of the successful defence of Gibraltar after a siege of nearly four years, obv. a map, showing the peninsula of Gibraltar, and its relation to the surrounding country, and the position of the camp and fleet of the besiegers, ins. "Battering ships destroyed Sept. 13th, 1782," rev. the following inscription in a wreath, "By a zealous exertion of patience, perseverance, and intrepidity, after contending with an unparalleled succession of dangers and difficulties in the defence of Gibraltar during a blockade and siege of almost four years, the garrison under the auspices of Geo. 3d triumphed over the combined powers of France and Spain;" beneath the inscription is a lion on a pedestal holding a shield on which is a castle; on the pedestal is the inscription, "Blockade commenced June 21, 1779, siege terminated Feb. 11th, 1783." After which the Society adjourned.

Special meetings of the Society were held June 6, and 20, in reference to the contemplated change of quarters, and at the latter meeting it was voted unanimously to remove the rooms of the Society to 30 Lafayette Place, and a committee was appointed to carry this vote into effect.

The Librarian announced the receipt of a valuable work from the widow of the late Dr. Samuel Pickering. The Curator reported several donations from the Messrs. Richard H. Lawrence and Robert H. Lawrence; from Geo. H. Lovett, one tin medal of All Saints Church, N. Y., size 40 mil., one tin medal of St Patrick's Cathedral, N. Y., size 28 mil.; from G. F. Ulex, Hamburg, an electrotype of the Annapolis shilling, silver, size 21 mil., and from I. F. Wood, one bronze medal, obv. Washington, rev. emblems, size 51 mil. The minutes were then approved and the Society adjourned.

WM. POILLON, *Sec'y.*

## PITTSBURGH NUMISMATIC SOCIETY.

WE have received from the Secretary an abstract of the proceedings of this Society, which meets weekly; its gatherings are well attended, and the exhibitions by its members are evidently abundant enough to maintain an interest in its work. At the annual meeting in June, the following officers were unanimously elected for the ensuing year:—*President*, S. H. Morgan; *Vice President*, F. J. Kirk; *Secretary*, Geo. W. Rode; *Treasurer*, E. F. Maynard; *Curator*, J. E. H. Kelley.

## CYRENAIC COINS AND ANTIQUITIES.

THE collection of ancient coins, jewels and pottery, brought chiefly from Cyrenaica by Lieut. Commander Henry H. Gorringer, lately in charge of the United States steamer Gettysburg, was purchased from Commander Gorringer, after that officer had refused offers from the British Museum, in order to keep the objects in this country by selling them to the United States Mint, which, however, was not able to purchase them, on account of the lack of funds available for such purpose. The series of coins, though small, is complete from the beginning of Cyrenian coinage, in the seventh century before Christ, down to the days when Cyrenaica fell into the power of the Græco-Egyptian monarchs. (300 B. C.) The typical representation on the first of these coins, which are autonomous or from self-governing municipalities, is the sacred silphium, the tree from which a peculiar gum, celebrated for its curative properties in pulmonary complaints, is extracted. This gum was the chief export, and was thought so precious that the Romans kept a store of it in the public treasury.

On the earliest of the coins, a rudely fashioned silver piece, the tree, with its fruits, is coarsely rendered, and unaccompanied by legend or other type. Gradually through the next four pieces, smaller, but also of silver, the representation of the tree becomes more correct and artistic—being seen at last on the sixth coin, a small gold piece, where it has become a veritable ornament. At the third piece (of the sixth century B. C.) the gods already begin to appear on the obverse, and gradually the silphium disappears and the gods occupy both sides of the pieces—religion thus replacing commerce. The deity principally represented on the coins is Jupiter Ammon. On the gold coin just mentioned, on the reverse of which is the silphium, the obverse is occupied by a beautifully executed relief of a horseman with a star in the sky behind him. The first four of the silver pieces are unique and unpublished. The first and largest, as said above, has on one side the silphium, and on the other the "sunk square." The second bears on the obverse the fruit of the silphium, which covers the entire field, and on the reverse, in the "sunk square," a dead lion's head. The third has on the obverse the head of Pan, with half of the fruit of the silphium behind it, and on the reverse the opened flower of the tree in the "sunk square." Finally, the fourth has the silphium tree on the obverse, and the head of Venus in a very archaic style on the reverse, ornamenting the "sunk square," which at that period, 500 B. C., tends to disappear from the coinage, as is seen in this piece. The next two silver pieces, relatively well known, bear heads of Jupiter Ammon on the obverse and silphia on the reverse. The four very small gold pieces, which follow in chronological order the first and larger piece of gold described above, are beautifully executed, and all have heads of Venus on one side and of Jupiter Ammon on the other, having, in each case, the initials K Y (of Cyrene,) behind the heads of Jupiter.

The most important coin, and No. 13 of the "find," has only one known prototype, which is in the French Cabinet of Medals. It is worth about \$1,000 and will probably go to the British Museum. This piece was struck by the Cyrenians in honor of Ptolemy Soter, who came into possession of Egypt and Cyrenaica, when the large empire of Alexander the Great was divided among his generals. It is a gold stater, of about \$5 intrinsic value, and is finely executed. It is the only Greek piece ever struck by a country in honor of a king. On the obverse is the helmeted head of Athene or Minerva, and on the reverse is the legend in Greek, "The Cyrenians to Ptolemy," and a winged figure of Victory holding a standard and a wreath. Thus it is of the usual type of the regal pieces of Alexander. The remaining twenty-two coins, in gold, silver and bronze, are of little value, of the Byzantine period, (500 A. D.) and were found at Carthage.

The first specimen of the jewelry and seals from Cyrene, is the bezel of a silver ring of the time of Alexander, bearing in intaglio the representation found on the coins of that king—a winged Victory. A little gold statuette is a Cupid holding a mask in his right hand and with the left a garland which passes around his naked body. Such statuettes are always found suspended by little gold loops, and in the tombs of children. The third piece is a child's antique gold ring,

in which the stone is a sard, bearing a Minerva *passant*. The two foregoing pieces are of the time of Alexander. The four seals which follow are of late Roman period and of little artistic interest or value. One is of a curious rose-colored stone of the time of Honorius.

The collection of pottery consists of thirty-six pieces—vases, terra cotta figures and lamps, chiefly of the first and second centuries B. C. They are principally from Cyrenaica, a few being from Cyprus and Troy. We will describe some of the most important examples. A terra cotta vase of beautiful form and carefully finished, is fourteen inches in height and was probably a model for one of bronze. This wine vase is in red clay glazed black, has three handles, and as its only ornament a fillet of pearls in red. A second and smaller vase is of the same material and form and four and a half inches in height. It is ornamented by two lines of palmated leaves, which are curiously stamped. A rare little lamp has a hole in the centre, showing that it was carried on a staff of wood or bronze. A little terra cotta statuette resembles those of Tanagra, though not decorated. It represents a woman with a *peplum* wrapped about her. A very ancient little vase of terra cotta, found at Neandria, near Troy, is in the form of a head of a warrior in his helmet, in archaic style. From Troy there is a small stone hatchet head and three stone spinning weights. An amorous little group is from Cyprus. A curious piece is a lead clamp for a huge vase, which comes from Cyrenaica.

### COIN SALES.

THE activity among the Coin dealers continues with but little signs of cessation. We have received catalogues of several which have just taken place, or will within a few days. So many of them occur just as we go to press, that in the present number we can only allude to them in a general way.

#### THE WILDER COLLECTION.

The sale of this valuable collection of coins we mentioned in the last number. The catalogue by Mr. Haseltine, contained 60 pages, and 2,063 lots. The following prices were obtained for the more desirable pieces: *Medals*.—Holland. Peace, silver, \$5; Queen Charlotte, by Kirk, \$3. *Washingtons*.—Small eagle Cent, '91, \$5.50; large do. rev. Liverpool Halfpenny, v. r. with date 1791, \$6; Half Dollar, 1792, \$11.50; Seasons Medal, \$11.50. *Dollars*.—1794, v. f. and r. \$53; '95, \$2.75 to \$5.35; '96, \$3.75 to \$5; '98, fifteen stars, \$9.50; do. thirteen, \$10.10; '99, \$7; 1801, \$4.75; '36, flying eagle, \$11; another, br. pr. cost \$49.50 sold for \$43; another, \$34.50; '51, br. pr. \$44; '52, v. g. \$34.10; '54, uncir. \$9.25; '55, \$8. and \$5.50; '56, \$5. *Half Dollars*.—1794, \$7.20, \$8. and \$9; '95, seventeen berries, \$7.75; '96, fifteen stars, \$39; '97, \$29; 1801 and 2. \$7.25 each; '07, uncir. \$12; '15, \$12.50 and \$16; '21, \$5.30; '36, \$5.75 and \$8; '51, \$4.45 to \$6.60; '52, \$7.50 to \$9.25. *Quarters*.—1815, v. r. \$7.30; '53, no arrows, \$9. *Dimes*.—1797, \$6.30; '98, \$5.70; 1800, v. f. \$11; '01, \$6.50; '02, \$8; '04, v. g. \$13.25; '07, v. f. mint lustre, but slightly imperfect, \$10.50; '22, v. g. \$7.25; '24 over '22, v. f. \$5.50. *Proof sets*.—1858, (3 cent piece out.) \$50.25; '77, with 20 cent, \$10.50; '78, do. \$9.50. *Half Dimes*.—1794, v. g. \$5.90; '96, \$7.75; 1805, barely circulated, \$16. *Colonials*.—Pine tree Shilling, \$4. and \$5.75; Sixpence, \$5; Lord Baltimore Sixpence, nearly fine, v. r. \$6; Rosa Americana Penny, 1723, \$6; Immunis Columbia, 1787, rev. eagle, uncir. (said to be "the finest specimen known.") \$35; Pitt Token, uncir. \$15; Vermont, Immune Columbia, obv. Georcius Rex, fair, \$10; Vermontis Res Publica, 1785, sun in centre, legend extends round border, date between it and plow; rev. rays and stars, "Stella Quarta Decima," poor, but said to be unique, (not mentioned by Crosby,) \$10.50; Granby Threepence, (3 hammers,) ex. r. \$12; Connecticut, '86, head to right, variety not in Crosby, \$6.20. *Cents*.—1793, chain, Ameri, \$6.25; do. America, \$7. and \$9.25; do. wreath, vine and bars on edge, (Maris, 4,) v. r. \$11.25; do. edge lettered, v. f. \$25.50; do. Liberty cap, almost uncir. ex. r. \$38.50; do. cracked die, \$22.50; '95, thick planchet, \$5.15; do. thin do. \$6.10; '96, with fillet head, \$10; '99, v. f., knobs on g's, \$23.50; 1801, uncir. \$9; 1804, perfect die, v. fair, \$8.75; do. broken die, \$9.25; 1809, uncir. \$15.50; '12, do. \$6.13. *Half Cents*.—1796, v. r. \$19; '31, proof surface, \$8.25. Fractional Currency begins to appear in Coin Sales, and those of the "Third issue" seem to bring the best prices. We learn that Mr. Wilder's famous collection of minerals, valued at nearly \$20,000, has been purchased by Mr. Clark, of New York, and presented to Williams College.

#### HASELTINE'S SALE.

July 29 and 30, Messrs. Bangs & Co. sold in New York a private collection of United States and foreign coins, and a few medals, together with a small assortment of Ancient Greek and Roman Coins, some fractional currency, &c. The Catalogue, 29 pages, contained 1,000 lots, and was prepared by Mr. John W. Haseltine. We give a few of the prices:—A Daler of Baron Gortz, "never before offered at auction in this country," good, ext. rare, \$2.10. *U. S. Half Cents*.—1796, v. r. 13; '21, Mint restrick, br. pr., v. r. 7.25; '36, do. 6.50; '40, proof, original, 8; '41, uncir. 8; '43, pr. 8; '44, br. pr. 10.25; '45, do. 9.50; '46, uncir. 8. *U. S. Pattern pieces*.—'38, Half Dollar, head of Liberty to left, pr., v. r. 6.75; '68, large Cent, like the old cents, uncir. 7.25; '69, set of three each, Half, Quarter, and Dime, "standard silver," 7.50. *Colonials*.—Annapolis Sixpence, v. fair, 13.50; Rosa Americana Penny, sharp, uncir. 6; 1787, Immunis Columbia, 8.50. *U. S. Cents*.—'93, wreath, barely cir. 10.75; do. Liberty cap, v. g. 7.50; '99, fair, 11; do. poor, 6.25; 1804, fine, 18.25; '21, v. f. 6. *Dime*.—'96, v. f. 7.25. *Twenty Cent*.—'77, br. pr. 5.70; '78, do. 4.30. *Quarter*.—'53, no arrows, 6. *Half Dollars*.—'94, v. g. 9; 1802, g. and v. r.



9.75; '15, g. 7.13; '52, g. 7; '66, without "In God we trust," 5.65. *Canada*.—Medal of George III., (Sandham, supplement, 49.) 8. *Miscellaneous*.—Waterloo medal, the large die. 9.25; Two pieces, one Japanese, another, Adam and Eve, &c., very broad. 5.50 and 8.25; Two dollar green-back, letter A, No. 1, genuine. 8.25. *Dollars*.—'94, v. fair. 38; '98, small eagle, 13 stars, g. 5; do. 15 stars, 6; 1804, *electrotype*, 6.38; '54, 7.10; '58, plugged, worn, 27.50.

#### COGAN'S SALE.

September 2 and 3. Mr. Cogan sold through Messrs. Bangs & Co., of New York, a small collection of gold, silver, and copper coins, &c., made up in great part at least, from the stock of a coin dealer from another city; the Catalogue, 32 pages, contained 776 lots, among them some very fine silver Thalers, which sold at low prices; one of the Jernegan cistern pieces, v. f. sold for 1.50; a very good wreath Cent of '93, "stars and stripes," 6.25; a fair '99, 20; a Half Cent of '96, rubbed and poor, 19. Pattern Half Dollar, cracked die, Gobrecht head, 1838. 9; set of six patterns, 1873, all different, 26; an Annapolis threepence, 6.60; Nova Eborac, 1787, head of Liberty to left, rare variety, 10.25; very fine Immunis Columbia, 1787. 8; Martha Washington Half Dime, v. g. 6.10; Half Dime of 1795, uncir. 8.50; Proof set of 1877, with Trade and Twenty-cent piece, 10.35; do. 1878. 9.25. The prices generally were not satisfactory.

#### SCOTT'S SALE.

September 4, Messrs. Leavitt & Co. of New York sold a collection of coins, medals, &c., partly the collection of Hon. Alfred Watkins of London. It was an evening sale, and the prices were quite low, considering the pieces offered, a few of which were very interesting to collectors. A piece of 80 reis, cast from the bell metal of a burned convent on St. Michael's Island, Azores, sold for 2.75; a Philadelphia "Shilling," German silver, 5.75; Half Dollar of 1794, 6.25; another, 1805 over 1809, (?) described as "a variety heretofore unknown, and possibly *unique*," very good, 5; another, with curiously altered die, "24 over '22, over '20, in turn over '19," fine and v. rare, 6.00. Some Fractional Currency brought good prices, one 25 cents, (No. 27 in Scott's revised Catalogue of Paper Money,) 8.00, and a 50 cent piece, (No. 31,) 4.00. A proof set of '58, brilliant condition, 49.00. In connection with this, we find it stated that "not more than sixty dollars were struck of this date, and consequently it is one of the rarest of coins." The catalogue, 25 pages, contained 658 lots.

#### HARZFELD'S SIXTH SALE.

September 11 and 12 Mr. S. K. Harzfeld held his Sixth Sale at the new rooms of Messrs. Bangs & Co., Broadway, New York. The Catalogue, 1140 lots, and 40 pages, was prepared in his well known careful manner, contained many valuable and interesting pieces,—some very fine French Medals of Louis XIV, and a large collection of Numismatic Catalogues and books. The prices were well sustained.

#### WOODWARD'S SALES.

Mr. Wm. Elliot Woodward, of Roxbury, announces three sales,—one of the Pratt Collection, which is now taking place, Sept. 29, 30, and Oct. 1. The catalogue, 88 pages, contains 1962 lots; among the pieces offered is a collection of gold coins, some of which from personal knowledge, we can say, have never been surpassed, if indeed they have been equalled, at any sale we remember. They are from England, France, Russia, Portugal, Spain and Mexico, as well as from the United States. Some beautiful foreign medals, English and French, a choice cabinet of Cents, and many other valuable pieces, make it in some respects the most remarkable sale that has taken place for years. We trust that Mr. Woodward's efforts may be satisfactorily rewarded, but fear the prices which the gold will bring will fall short of its value, when judged by European standards. October 15 and 16, he sells in Boston the John Robinson Collection, which embraces about 1200 lots, mostly of United States coinage, with Medals, Numismatic books, &c. The Catalogues of this sale are now ready. Later he is to sell the Pecker and Gerdt's Collections, containing about 2000 lots. These we shall hope to refer to in the next *Journal*.

#### FROSSARD'S SALE.

Mr. Edward Frossard sells in New York a choice assortment of United States coins, with some interesting foreign pieces, especially a very fine collection of Masonics, among which is the rare "Franklin," struck by the Lodge of the Nine Muses, in Paris, which it is thought will bring a high price. The sale takes place on Friday the 26th, at the rooms of Messrs. Bangs & Co., and there are about 550 lots. Mr. Frossard's previous sales have contained some very choice pieces, notably that which catalogued the Merritt Collection, and this is no exception to those which have preceded it.

#### OTHER COMING SALES.

The Messrs. Chapman of Philadelphia announce a sale to take place early in October, with some very fine antiques, which will be found advertised in this number.

On Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons, October 14 and 15, will be sold by Messrs. Bangs, a collection of very rare Roman, Greek, and Phenician coins, in silver and copper, brought from Syria, and containing a number of very valuable and interesting pieces, among which we notice several Parthian coins; the Catalogue, 38 pages, contains 672 lots, not the least interesting of which were several cups, vases, jars and lamps of ancient pottery from Cyprus, Nola and Pompeii; and was prepared by Mr. T. R. Strobridge, of Hoboken, N. J.

From these sales it would appear that Coin dealers certainly are feeling the revival of business, and the Collections that they are offering are, many of them at least, filled with very desirable pieces. We shall give as full reports of these different sales as our space will allow.

## NEW MEDALS.

MR. ISAAC F. WOOD has issued two new Washington Medals; the first bears upon the obverse a keystone with a sunken panel, containing a bust to right, and surrounded by a wreath of oak leaves; on the sides, the date of his birth and death, and below it a small monogram. The reverse has an arch and keystone, bearing the name WASHINGTON. On the supports at the left and right, the dates 1776 and 1876, below which the initials of the designer and die cutter: beneath the arch, the inscription, "Fit keystone in the triumphal arch which spans the nation's century." It has been struck—a limited number only—in silver, copper, and tin. Size 20. A second has on the obverse a bust of Washington, with the legend, "True and Wise and Merciful and Just." The reverse bears a view of the tomb at Mt. Vernon, surrounded by the legend, "Mount Vernon Chapter, No. 228, R. A. M." &c. Size 20. Struck in silver, copper, and white metal. Impressions in the three metals can be obtained by addressing the New York Medal Club, 177 Second Avenue, New York. Price of the set, \$2.25. Bronze, 50 cents, and tin, 25 cents. The impressions are limited.

MR. G. H. LOVETT, whose removal across Broadway was advertised in the last number of the *Journal*, has struck several new medals lately. One of Washington, for the Historical and Forestry Society of Rockland County, with reverse, Washington's Headquarters, Tappan, 1780. Another, with obverse, bust of Andre, and legend, Maj. John Andre, October 1, 1780; reverse, "Old Dutch Church, Tappan," &c., and also a medalet on the Dedication of St. Patrick's Cathedral, New York City, May 25, 1879.

## A REMARKABLE ANCIENT COIN.

THE following newspaper notice of an "ancient coin" is "important if true." The minuteness of detail as to its discovery, the interesting point that it was made with "some kind of flint stone by the ancients," the "peculiar hieroglyphics" it bears, and indeed all the particulars so gravely told, surround this piece with a halo of glory, above all the other coins known to numismatists, and we hardly know which to admire most, the genius who could invent the story, the faith which accepted it, or the sublime indifference with which Antonio Barteoni parted with it to *present* it to a transient acquaintance.

A correspondent writes us that Captain Edwin C. Nichols of the bark *Noriena*, of Portland, while stopping at Port Mahon, in the Mediterranean, making repairs, and taking new sails in place of those which were blown away in heavy gales experienced during the passage out, made the acquaintance and friendship of a well-known citizen of that port, Antonio Barteoni, who presented him with a silver coin which is supposed to be very valuable, and one of the most remarkable curiosities ever brought to this country. Mr. Barteoni claims this coin to be one of the original silver shekels used in the purchase of Joseph at the time he was sold by his brethren into Egypt, and that it was made with some kind of flint stone by the ancients. He says it came into the possession of his family from the Moors, and has been handed down from generation to generation until now. While people are at liberty to take their own view of this estimate of its antiquity, it seems to be better established that the coin is one which was eagerly sought after fifteen years ago by the officers of one of our United States men-of-war, who applied to the owner for it, and which Signor Barteoni then carefully kept from them. It is nearly square in shape, and has some peculiar hieroglyphics worked on both sides. This coin is now in the possession of Captain Nichols, and has a very curious appearance.

## CHURCH TOKENS.

[See *Journal*, Vol. VI., pp. 70, 84, Vol. VIII., pp. 44, 92.]

THE afternoon preceding the Sabbath, "the pastor, before dismissing the congregation, came down from the pulpit, and standing before the communion table, declared the qualifications of such as should be welcome to approach the ordinance in view: \* \* \* and then poured out on the table a great number of small square pieces of lead on which the initial letters of his name were stamped in capitals," \* \* \* "the communicants were desired, one by one, to come up and receive their tokens from the pastor's hand."—*Ancient Dominions of Maine*, pp. 359-60.

## FINDING OLD COINS.

MANY years ago, there was in the vicinity of Paris, at Vincennes, a good *maraicher*, or truck-gardener, whose wont it was to furnish the metropolis with cabbages. Ever since the history of Paris, Vincennes has been inhabited. The fields in that particular neighborhood have been turned over and tilled by long successions of market-gardeners for over a thousand years. The crops of lettuce, spinach, and cabbages of Vincennes have gone, century after century, to fill that huge maw, which the realistic Zola calls *le ventre de Paris*. Now, a certain Jean Baptiste had a field of fair cabbages, and when the season of their bulky ripeness had come, he commenced to pull them. It is a plucking process, for you take the round hard head firmly in your two hands, you put a knee on the ground, and you jerk the cabbage out of mother earth as if it were a cork from a bottle. There was one cabbage, a fairly good one, perhaps a little better than the rest, that Jean Baptiste had selected, among some others, to top his load with, when he should take the whole lot on his cart to the Halles Centrales. It is not recorded whether, when the extirpating process took place, that exceptional cabbage gave a groan or any particular sign of distress, only the *maraicher* had quite a tussle with it before it could be eradicated. Of course, the roots came up with the cabbage. When Jean Baptiste prepared that cabbage for market, which was to wash it, behold! held tight in the delicate filaments of the root was a broad gold piece. Jean Baptiste rushed back to the field, and, in a mad kind of way, jerked out vegetables indiscriminately, but there were no more auriferous cabbages. The cabbage was taken to Paris, and the gardener sold cabbage and all, just as it was, to a *marchand de bric-à-brac*. It may be depended upon that, although the bric-à-brac merchant might have paid full price for the cabbage, he gave a very small sum for the gold piece. Subsequently, and in due course of time, the gold piece found its way to the leading numismatic dealer in Paris. It turned out to be a medallion struck by Constantine, (A. D. 310,) on the occasion of the blessing of the town of Trèves. It was unique of its kind, and was valued at \$1,000. To-day it forms one of the numismatic ornaments in the fine collection M. le Vicomte Ponton d'Amécourt. Who ate the cabbage, or whether it was good of its kind, has never been recorded. It is supposable, however, that Jean Baptiste since that find has devoted himself to planting cabbages.

During the Haussman *régime* in 1863, when old Paris was demolished and rebuilt, in the neighborhood of the Hotel Cluny a superb coin-placer was struck. In driving through the Boulevard Sebastopol, right under the Fountain of St. Michael, the workmen dug into ten thousand gold coins of the time of the Romans. Many of the pieces were of the reign of Julius Caesar, but the series was continuous, extending down to the period of Alexander Severus. Now it happens, that although money of the time of Caesar is not very rare, the coins of later Roman emperors are quite scarce. The earlier coins were fairly worn, showing how they had passed from hand to hand, but the Alexander Severus money was in beautiful preservation, and had possibly never been circulated. This find was worth in weight of gold alone some \$50,000, but estimated in a numismatic sense was valued at three or four times as much. A discovery of this kind was of the utmost importance, as it filled up many a gap in the cabinets of European and American collectors.

## BOOK NOTICES.

MONOGRAPH OF THE UNITED STATES CENTS AND HALF CENTS, ISSUED BETWEEN THE YEARS 1793 AND 1857. \* \* \* A CONTRIBUTION TO THE NUMISMATIC HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES. BY ED. FROSSARD.

WE have received from Mr. E. FROSSARD of Irvington, N. Y., sheets of his work on the United States Copper Coinage; it is a beautifully printed book of 60 pages, small quarto, with a careful list of Colonial pieces and "Washingtons," and illustrated with nine heliotype plates. From the brief examination we have been able to give it, we can only say it gives abundant evidence of careful and minute study. The distinguishing differences in the dies are clearly



described, and the illustrations of the different varieties are profuse. It will doubtless be of great value to those who make the collection of Cents and Half Cents a specialty,—following out as it does the work so well begun by Mr. Crosby. The price of the book, we understand, is \$3.00. We shall endeavor in a future number to review this volume more at length, when we shall have had opportunity to examine it more carefully. c.

THE SILVER COINS OF ENGLAND, ARRANGED AND DESCRIBED; WITH REMARKS ON BRITISH MONEY, PREVIOUS TO THE SAXON DYNASTIES. BY EDWARD HAWKINS, F.R.S., F.A.S., &c., *Keeper of Antiquities in British Museum*. SECOND EDITION, WITH ALTERATIONS AND ADDITIONS BY R. LL. KENYON. LONDON: BERNARD QUARITCH, 15 PICCADILLY. MDCCCLXXVI.

A HANDBOOK TO THE COINAGE OF SCOTLAND, GIVING A DESCRIPTION OF EVERY VARIETY ISSUED BY THE SCOTTISH MINT IN GOLD, SILVER, BILLON, AND COPPER, FROM ALEXANDER I. TO ANNE. WITH AN INTRODUCTORY CHAPTER ON THE IMPLEMENTS AND PROCESSES EMPLOYED. BY J. D. ROBERTSON, MEMBER OF THE NUMISMATIC SOCIETY OF LONDON. LONDON: GEORGE BELL AND SONS, YORK STREET, COVENT GARDEN. 1878.

THESE two volumes are worthy of association with those we have lately noticed, and of the present high standard of works on Numismatics. They are written for very different purposes, and on entirely different plans. The former is an enlargement of a standard work published in 1841, in a volume of three hundred and eight pages. The studies and discoveries of thirty-five years had so added to the knowledge of the subject, and to the material necessary for that knowledge, that the grandson of the original author undertook what his grandfather had in view till his death, viz.: a completely rewritten work. And Mr. Kenyon has worthily honored his grandfather in this filial labor. The new edition contains five hundred and four pages, with a few additional plates. It shows thorough study of the coins themselves, and careful reading of the essays of others, particularly in the matter of the coinage of the Heptarchy, of the Henries, I, II, and III, and also IV, V, and VI, and of Charles I, to whom over sixty pages are given. The volume has been highly praised by English writers.

The second book is a condensation, in one hundred and forty pages, of the matter contained in the three other principal works on the coinage of Scotland, the most important of them having Supplements, which make it awkward for use. The volume is exquisitely printed, with woodcuts in the text. The coins of gold, silver, billon, and copper are arranged separately, and the descriptions are at the same time concise and complete. It is impossible to make any criticism of the author's judgment and correctness, as no really full series of Scottish coins is at hand for examination. Probably there is none of much importance in this country.

Both these volumes should be placed in every library where works on Numismatics are thought worthy of collection, as they are now in several of our principal ones. W. S. A.

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## OBITUARY.

### COL. MENDES I. COHEN.

MENDES I. COHEN died at his residence, No. 115 North Charles Street, Baltimore, Md., May 7th, 1879, after a brief sickness, during which he was at no time confined to his bed, nor did he consider himself seriously ill. His family were originally from Prussia, but settled before the Revolution, in Richmond, Va., where they were among the most substantial citizens, and where he was born May 25th, 1796. His father died in early life, and his mother, six brothers and a sister, (none of whom survive him,) removed to Baltimore in 1808. Here he became engaged in the business of banking as one of the firm of J. I. Cohen, Jr., and Bros., a well-known house in its day, at the north-east corner of Baltimore and Calvert Streets, subsequently occupied by Josiah Lee & Co. as a banking house.

In 1829 Col. Cohen retired from active business, and spent some years in traveling in Europe, Asia Minor, and Egypt. He made a journey up the Nile at a time when such a trip was nearly as perilous as the more recent expeditions of Livingstone and Stanley to the interior of Africa. This journey was made on horseback, on camels and by boats. Col. Cohen frequently entertained his friends by describing scenes and incidents of his travels in Africa and Asia. He carried the first American flag that was

ever seen on the Nile, which he made with his own hands. It was afterwards kept by him as a memento of his adventures.

One of his uncles was a banker in Richmond during Colonial times, and some of the family connections took part in the Revolutionary war. A member of the family in Baltimore is in possession of a pair of army pistol holsters which antedate the adoption of the Constitution of the United States. He was himself one of the defenders of Baltimore in 1812-14, and served in Captain Nicholson's Company in the defence of Fort M'Henry against the British forces. He received the title of Colonel from Gov. Veasey, confirmed by the Executive Council in 1836, having been appointed one of the Governor's Aides, in recognition, as the letter announcing it stated, of his services during the war of 1812-14.

Thirty years ago he served in the Maryland Legislature, and for twenty years he has been a director in the Firemen's Insurance Company. He was also a vice-president of the Hebrew Benevolent Association, and a director in the Hebrew Orphan Asylum. He possessed a vigorous intellect and refined tastes, and took great delight in his favorite literary pursuits. In his later years he had several fine collections of ancient coins, and took much pleasure in their collection, and in Numismatics generally. For three years he has been entirely blind, and this, combined with his great age, somewhat enfeebled him. He was, however, almost daily on the streets, attended by a servant, and his tall and commanding figure could frequently be seen on North Charles and Baltimore Streets, near the scenes of his early activity.

Col. Cohen was brought up in the Hebrew faith and adhered to it during life. He was connected with one of the leading congregations of this city, but seldom attended public worship, preferring the more quiet mode of discharging his religious duties in his family. He left a handsome estate, to which up to within a year or two ago he gave his personal supervision. He never married, but leaves a large number of nephews and nieces.

### WILLIAM BARBER.

MR. WILLIAM BARBER, late engraver of the Mint of the United States, was born in London, May 2, 1807. He was the son of John Barber, an eminent die-engraver in that city, and was brought up to the same profession. Much of his work was in connection with manufactories of silver plate; and he was also employed in making dies for embossed cards and labels, for Messrs. De La Rue & Co.

In September, 1852, partly from a desire to better his condition, but specially from a growing dislike to the government there, both civil and ecclesiastical, he resolved to emigrate to this country, with his family. In doing so, he declined good offers. He resided in Boston ten years, and was variously employed in his line of work, of course not finding much opening for work on coins and medals. Indeed, a chief reason why there are so few superior artists in that line, anywhere, is because there is so little to do, if we except the inferior class of tradesmen's tokens, political medalets, and the like. Afterwards he was employed in the Gorham silver ware manufacture, making dies for ornamental embossing. His skill, in this way, came to the knowledge of Mr. Longacre, then engraver of the Mint, and he secured his services as an assistant. This was in 1865.

In January, 1869, upon the death of Mr. Longacre, he was appointed as his successor, and continued in that position for the remainder of his life. In August, 1879, during a brief vacation, which was spent at Atlantic City, he went into the surf, when he was not feeling very well, and from this a succession of chills and fevers resulted. Naturally he was of a strong constitution and robust frame, and it was supposed he would soon rally from the attack; but it was found necessary to bring him to his home in the city, where he expired, Sunday, August 31.

His fellow-officers, and those employed with him in the Mint, assembled, and voted that "in parting with him we lose the co-operation of an affable, active, pains-taking and meritorious officer, skillful in one of the most difficult of all arts, and evincing progress and improvement in it continually." In his manners he was well-bred and courteous,

and in his conduct upright and honorable. Besides much original work on pattern coins, he also produced over forty medals, public and private. The work on all of them was creditable, but we may specify those of Agassiz, Rittenhouse, and Henry, as very superior specimens of art. D.

GERMAN numismatic publications have recently announced the death of several prominent numismatists, the best known of whom to American collectors is doubtless that of FONROBERT, of Berlin, the sale of whose large collection by Herr Adolph Weyl, recently attracted so much attention. H. NOEL HUMPHREYS, the well known author of "The Coin Collector's Manual," "Coinage of the British Empire," &c., deceased early in the summer of this year.

### EDITORIAL.

THE *New York Herald* for August 25, ultimo, has an interesting account, which we print on another page, describing a collection of Cyrenaic coins and antiquities on exhibition by Feuardent & Co., Lafayette Place, New York. These gentlemen have been very successful in placing some extremely valuable collections of gems and antiques before American amateurs, and securing them for the cabinets of some of our public institutions. It is greatly to be hoped that this collection, containing of so many objects of interest, and some of which cannot be found elsewhere, may find a purchaser on this side the water.

THE Cyrenaic gold coin, which is likely to be taken by the British Museum, was brought to Capt. Gorringer by the Arab who found it, and who said he could not pass it. The Captain handed him a piece of twenty francs for it, and the man expressed his astonishment and gratitude by many protestations of thanks, and by kissing his hand. The intrinsic value of this stater is about five dollars; but, for its extreme rarity and fine condition, it is expected to bring one thousand dollars.

THE article on "A Coin of Eucratides," in our July number, was originally printed in the "New York Times" of March 9, 1879. It was communicated to one of the editors of that journal by Mr. Feuardent, the well known numismatist.

WE notice that one of the Confederate silver Half Dollars, described in the *Journal* for April and July, is offered at the price of \$1,000, which, considering the uncertainty of the number actually struck, is modest. It was offered, we hear, to a well known collector in Boston, for less than one-third that price and declined, and one of the pieces, with the reverse die, was offered to the New York Society, and also declined. It has been suggested by a correspondent of *Numisma* that this piece having been struck in the New Orleans Mint by Government officers, with Government tools, and on silver stolen from the United States, should be restored to its true ownership, and that it be placed in the Mint cabinet. The obverse die, we hear, was claimed by the Government: why not the reverse also?

THE *Western Pennsylvania Numismatic Society* have issued a Medal in commemoration of the Exposition held at Pittsburgh. Copies in white metal can be obtained of G. W. Rode, 49 Fifth Avenue, Pittsburgh, at twenty cents each, post paid.

THE *Art Interchange* (see advertisement on second page of our cover,) is of special interest to those who desire to cultivate the art of household decoration. Each number contains a design for painting or embroidery.

SMALL gold pieces for circulation are needed, to accustom the people to the sight of "the specie basis." The larger pieces, eagles and double eagles, are good things to have, but half and quarter eagles, if once more brought into daily use, would be among the best means of converting popular opinion from the greenback craze, which has gained the most victims where no "little eagles wave their wings in gold."

GERMANY is said to be paying out silver again, and the bimetallists are encouraged.







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THE CARRARA MEDALS.